

Hafa Adai!

Haze across Marianas comes from off-island wildfires. » **PAGE 7**

DPS gets 1,850 complaints for various crimes since Soudelor. » **PAGE 21**

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Tinian mayor: Redo flawed EIS

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas released yesterday a letter sent to the U.S. military, arguing its failures in analyzing the impact of proposed live-fire training on Tinian. The letter calls all military training alternatives on Tinian an end to economic viability, destruction of land and resources, and a denial of the Tinian's people right to live in a safe and healthy environment.

» **San Nicolas demands 'environmental justice'**



San Nicolas

The letter—sent on Sept. 14 as part of the comment period for the National Environmental Policy Act—formalizes and reiterates Tinian's concerns over the military's proposal.

The Marine Corps Forces Pacific has laid out plans for four range complexes on Tinian inclusive of grenade, tank, pistol, and mortar training, and restricted airspace. They plan to build on land they lease—the northern two-thirds of Tinian.

See **TINIAN** on **Page 4**

Homes for rent in short supply

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

A combination of factors has led to a shortage of available rental units on Saipan. Several realtors on island are having a hard time looking for units for their clients.

For RE/MAX office manager Mable Ayuyu, they started experiencing a short inventory of home rentals and apartment rentals immediately following Typhoon Soudelor.

"We started with many families displaced, coupled with incoming groups including teams from [the Federal Emergency Management Agency], [Guam Power Authority], and other businesses flying in to assist in typhoon recovery. This created a large demand for immediate housing," Ayuyu said.

Apartments being rented in bulk are also a factor in the shortage of available units.

See **HOMES** on **Page 4**

When money turns into dust

» **FEMA says it's their legal obligation to recover funds**

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has released over \$20.5 million in individual assistance to date but at least some thousands of it may have to be returned.

FEMA has asked those who "incorrectly received FEMA funds" to return them.

"When mistakes happen, no matter whether they're made by the applicant or by FEMA, the law requires that FEMA recover that money," federal coordinator

See **MONEY** on **Page 4**

Budget decision by Tuesday

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos expects to have a decision on the Legislature's \$145-million budget bill by Tuesday next week, a day before the end of the fiscal year, said press secretary Ivan Blanco.

"He indicated Tuesday..." Blanco told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Blanco said Inos has initial concerns about the 5-percent salary raises for law enforcement.

See **BUDGET** on **Page 4**



FIREFIGHTER'S SONG

Firefighter J.J. Concepcion sings his own composition, a firefighter's song titled *Taotao i Guafi*, as Gov. Eloy Inos and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Commissioner Claudio Norita listen during yesterday's proclamation signing for Fire Prevention Month and Firefighters Memorial Service Day.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

See story on **Page 2**

INSIDE



LOCAL

The election of a teacher representative on the State Board of Education is now law.

» **PAGE 8**



LOCAL

Stellar Marianas is inviting 12 young women to join this year's Miss Teen Marianas.

» **PAGE 20**



LOCAL

Scientists devise new method to measure coral-reef ecosystem conditions.

» **PAGE 22**



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Local

Fire department to check 500 homes, install smoke alarms

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services is going to inspect 500 houses in the CNMI and install smoke alarms, according to DFEMS Commissioner Claudio Norita yesterday.

Norita said the department, in partnership with the American Red Cross, will conduct an awareness campaign for their smoke alarm program throughout October.

"We are going to teach our kids fire prevention," Norita said yesterday at the proclamation signing for Fire Prevention Month and National Fallen Firefighter Day at the Governor's Office conference room.

October has been declared Fire Prevention Month nationwide. This year's national theme is "Install, inspect, protect, with a smoke alarm!"

Norita disclosed that they have about 200 smoke alarms and that they are procuring 300 more so they can reach out to at least 500 homes in the Commonwealth.

Three out of five home fire deaths reportedly resulted from fires in homes that were without working smoke alarms.

On National Fallen Firefighter Day on Oct. 12, Norita said they will have a memorial to honor firefighters nationwide who have died in the line of duty. In the CNMI, firefighter Ernie Dela Cruz was killed in the line of duty so his name is inscribed at the memorial ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The department will have a Mass on Oct. 12 for National Fallen Firefighter Day.

Norita also announced that Austin Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr, the first woman installed

as president and board chair of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, will be going to Guam and proceeding to Saipan on Oct. 30.

Norita said that Kerr accepted their invitation to visit Saipan.

The International Association of Fire Chiefs represents the leadership of firefighters and emergency responders worldwide.

In proclaiming Fire Prevention Month, Gov. Eloy S. Inos urged everyone to install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the house, including the basement, and to support the public safety activities and efforts of DFEMS.

In signing Firefighters Memorial Service Day, Inos called upon all citizens and all civic and educational organizations to observe the day of Oct. 12 "in recognition of the patriotic service and dedicated efforts of fire and emergency services personnel by lowering the American and CNMI flags on all buildings to half-staff."

"I further call upon all citizens of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to remember all fire and emergency personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community and to pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes," Inos said.

The events of Sept. 11, 2001, brought national attention to the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices faced by fire and emergency services personnel on a daily basis, according to the proclamation.

In 2014, DFEMS responded to 333 suppression calls, 19 of which were structure fires, six activated alarms, 14 vehicle fires, 258 debris fires, and 50 wildland fires.

» **October is Fire Prevention Month; Oct. 12 is Firefighters Memorial Service Day**

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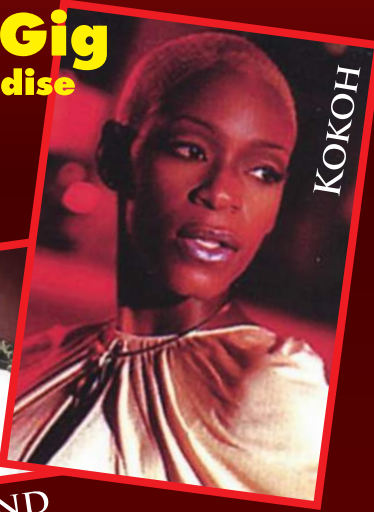
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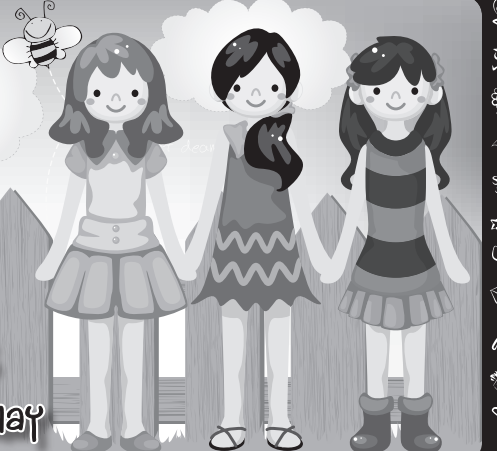


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'Save Pagan' advocate backs Kan Pacific lease renewal

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Similar to what "Save Pagan" and Northern Islands residents are going through with land issues, an advocate of the group said that they support the renewal of Kan Pacific's lease, which is set to expire in a couple of years.

"Save Pagan" advocate William Torres said that persons of Northern Marianas descent, or NMDs, are beneficiary investors of CNMI public lands, just as they are also the owners of CNMI public lands. Their collective ownership of CNMI

public lands on Rota, Tinian, Saipan, and the Northern Islands entitles NMDs to ultimately make decisions on their investments and public land uses, he said.

Torres argued that Public Law 15-64, which created the Department of Public Lands, makes it the "minister and trustee—conflicting and contradictory roles—of all CNMI public lands, in essence a de facto owner of one of all public lands and doesn't owe no duty of loyalty to the beneficial and equitable owners and investors."

Torres said that they support the owners of Mariana Resort in

the renewal of their land lease because what Save Pagan advocates are pushing for is in line with their objectives.

Citing comparisons to that of Hawaii, *Saipan Tribune* learned that the situation on land leases is similar to that of the legal franchise known as the Bishop Estate in Hawaii, inuring to the benefit of Native Hawaiians.

As beneficial and equitable owners of Bishop Estate properties and income, Native Hawaiians are the sole and exclusive beneficiaries and beneficiary owners and investors in Native Hawaiian properties coordinated through the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and governed by an elective governing board of trustees.

Like OHA in Hawaii, DPL here in the CNMI performs and serves ministerial duties as custodian of NMD lands but Torres said the department has taken a stance that is "inapposite to Native Hawaiians with OHA."

"With many concerned citizens and other supporters of Marianas Resort, DPL's decision isn't in the best interest of the CNMI, Torres said.

DPL Secretary Pedro A. Tenorio in June said they will solicit proposals for Mariana Resort & Spa's public land upon expiration of its lease, adding it is the best interest of the collective owners of the public land to conduct solicitation for proposals upon expiration of existing leases.

Kan Pacific, which owns Mariana Resort, said it had been

assured that it would be given a renewal.

DPL's alleged about-face led several members of the Hotel Association of the Northern Marianas Islands to question whether their existing land leases would also be renewed, putting a damper on their plans to improve amenities and raise hotel standards.

"The secretary [Tenorio], who is appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, serves at the pleasure of the governor pursuant to

PL 15-2, Section 102. And just when all think that the secretary is held to strict standards of fiduciary care, he/she is nonetheless removable at-will for any or no reason at all by the governor," Torres said.

"Save Pagan" is a group of CNMI residents that opposes the U.S. military's planned live-fire training exercises on Pagan, as outlined in the CNMI Joint Military Training Plan-Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement.

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2 more CUC feeders to go

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. aims to have “Feeder 7” or the main lines running from its power plant in Lower Base up to the northern part of the island in Marpi to be energized by the end of this week, acting CUC executive director

John Riegel told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

According to Riegel, they have two main power lines, or feeders, remaining to finish with repairs: Feeder 7 and Kiya 4, which comes off the substation in Chalan Kiya.

“We’ve got power poles and conductor all the way up to [La Fiesta, an abandoned mall]...

CW workers,” Lulu added.

Despite her dismay, Lulu said she will return the money to FEMA.

Citing the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, FEMA earlier clarified that only those who are U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, and qualified aliens are eligible to receive individual federal assistance. Qualified aliens include those who have a child who is a U.S. citizen.

According to FEMA media relations manager Kurt Pickering, they will try and recover the money given to those who weren’t supposed to receive them.

“We do audits. We audit things to try to make sure that everything is done already,” Pickering said.

If the assistance money has already been spent, Pickering said that still needs to be repaid.

“That’s why we’re trying to get the word out to the people so that they won’t spend it,” he said.

Pickering said they could set up payment schedules with those who can’t return the money right away.

“It’s our legal obligation to recover it if it should not have been given to them in the first place,” Pickering said.

FEMA has been giving rental assistance to qualified individuals as part of their individual assistance due to Typhoon Soudelor.

This shortage is also recognized by Zenie Mafnas, Northern Marianas Housing Corp. deputy corporate director and State Led Disaster Housing Task Force state lead.

Mafnas said they have been coordinating with FEMA in order to identify available units for rent.

“We took our own landlord registry and we called about almost 200 landlords,” she said.

Out of the 200 that they were able to contact, only 34 units were said to be available.

“The shortage of rental resources is basically out of NMHC’s hands. The reality of it all is that we don’t have many landlords here [on] Saipan,” Mafnas said.

For the task force, Mafnas said they are focusing on rebuilding homes.

“What the Housing Task Force is also focusing on is just rebuilding homes. So that it’s a long-term solution for those that were damaged,” Mafnas said.

Today and tomorrow, they are going to be stringing line.”

“Sometime this weekend, we

should be energizing” the feeder, Riegel said.

Feeders 1, 2, 3, and 4, which run down main roads to Garapan, Oleai, and Middle Road are repaired, according to Riegel.

response as of press time.

Environmental justice

San Nicolas argues that the military’s plans—as laid out in the EIS—fails on a level of environmental justice, falling short of even acknowledging these issues as coherent, or salient, and incorrectly dismissing impacts that would seem prevalent and clear to the people on the island.

San Nicolas notes a presidential directive—an executive order from the White House in 1994—that tasks federal agencies to safeguard how their proposed actions affect minority populations, low-income populations, and indigenous peoples.

That directive, Executive Order 12898, tasks federal agencies to identify and address “disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States and its territories and possessions, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands.”

San Nicolas cites records and the EIS to say that 98 percent of the people on Tinian are minorities, and how 44 percent of the population is “low income

San Nicolas says Defense has taken the position in their impact statement that because all of Tinian is considered a minority and low-income area, there are no environmental justice issues.

As an example, San Nicolas cites the DEIS in saying that over 1,000 people on Saipan and Tinian will be exposed to noise levels of 115 decibels during 10 percent to 15 percent of the total training time proposed under CJMT. This noise level is comparable to the sound of the siren on an emergency vehicle, a firework, or “being near a rock band,” San Nicolas said, citing the EIS.

The residents affected by these impacts live in minority and low-income areas, San Nicolas said, but the DEIS “then incredibly concludes that

The “Kiyas,” or the main lines coming of the substation in Chalan Kiya, energize the southern half of the island.

Riegel also noted yesterday that they have about “80 percent”

the impact would not be considered disproportional as all of the CNMI is considered a minority and low-income area.”

“DOD’s inane interpretation of environmental justice is that if an action affects only minority and low-income populations, there is no disproportionate impact,” San Nicolas writes. “Therefore, DOD can claim that there [are] no environmental justice issues to analyze. DOD’s policy appears to encourage targeting islands and areas that are comprised solely of minority populations, low-income populations, and indigenous peoples.”

San Nicolas notes that the DEIS details cumulative impact on soil, noise pollution, airspace, land and submerged lands use, recreational resources, terrestrial biology, marine biology, visual resources, cultural resources, socioeconomics, and environmental justice.

“In the CNMI, it will be the people of Tinian that will disproportionately have to bear the significant impacts of the proposed activities as all the alternatives involve the use of Tinian... The impacts of the CJMT would fall disproportionately on the islands Tinian and Pagan.”

Inconsistent statements

San Nicolas says DoD has lacked transparency in its outreach.

Citing an earlier *Saipan Tribune* article in June, San Nicolas quotes Marforpac executive director Craig Whelden saying that there would not be a “bombing range.”

Whelden said then that DoD has “also consistently said that high hazard impact area would be limited to the volcanic area in the north, thereby protecting and reserving flora and fauna.” But expanding on this “high hazard area,” San Nicolas cites the EIS, which notes 175 2,000-lb aviation ordnance, 175 1,000-lb aviation ordnance, and 175 500-lb aviation ordnance that would be dropped on Pagan every year.

“It is the inconsistency between statements made by DOD

of water wells on line power, saying it would be a significant development when all wells are back online because it would allow them to start returning 24-hour water service on island.

representatives and the actual DEIS that have created confusion over what exactly DOD’s plans are in the CJMT. It is also the reason why many people in the CNMI have come to doubt the credibility of the DOD officials who have been handling the NEPA process. When DOD prepares another EIS, it should make a real effort to obtain input from the local community in the decision-making process, employ a strategy that encourages public participation rather than simply going through the motions, and be transparent about the planned actions and impacts,” San Nicolas said.

Bigger, connected picture

San Nicolas’s letter also draws a picture of the cumulative and connected impacts of several DoD projects that he believes DoD has failed to combine and analyze for the public together.

This failure frustrates the ability of the community to analyze and comment on the impacts of these actions on Tinian and the Mariana Islands as a whole, San Nicolas said.

Citing Council for Environmental Quality regulations, San Nicolas says all “connected actions” must be considered in a single EIS. These are the Guam-CNMI relocation, CJMT, and Marianas Islands Training and Testing, or MITT EIS which all purport impacts to Tinian.

San Nicolas notes that the notice of intent for the MITT EIS, which described expansive sonar, undersea, and bombing training, was issued in September 2011, and expanded on an earlier EIS, the Marianas Islands Range Complex.

The MITT draft was released in September 2013, or six months after DOD filed the notice intent for the CJMT. The final MITT EIS was released in May 2015, San Nicolas said.

“It is evident from the record that DOD was planning all of these actions simultaneously, but elected to release three separate EIS’s and conduct three separate NEPA processes rather than preparing a single document,” San Nicolas said.

MONEY

From Page 1

ing officer Stephen M. DeBlasio Sr. said in a statement.

Among those who may have to return the money are CNMI-only transitional workers who somehow got approved for assistance even though they’re not qualified or eligible for aid.

One of them is Lulu, a 65-year-old resident of San Antonio whose home suffered damage and became jobless after Typhoon Soudelor. She was approved for \$2,000 in property and rental assistance and just recently received the check.

“If they told us before that we aren’t qualified for assistance, that would have been better. Now they approve us and gave us the money but ask us to return it? That’s very disheartening,” Lulu said.

Lulu lives alone in her apartment and now relies on her friends and acquaintances for help. Although she was able to receive assistance from the American Red Cross, Lulu says it’s just not enough.

“We are victims too. Soudelor didn’t come here and decide that it will only affect those who are U.S. citizens. We pay taxes, too. Have compassion for us

HOMES

From Page 1

Ayuyu said they have a wait list exceeding 50 people this month. They have also received 95 typhoon-related inquiries since Aug. 3, and this continues to increase.

This is the first time that they’ve experienced a shortage, she said.

“We try our best to find housing that is suitable for renters but there isn’t enough supply to keep up with the demand, especially following a major natural disaster. Many people are still without housing, opting to rent hotels,” Ayuyu said.

Del Benson of Marianas Living echoes the same sentiment. “We have a shortage of rental units on island.”

Benson said the shortage is because of the typhoon as well as the many people coming in related to the development of the island.

He added that he had about two dozen inquiries on units in the last two to three weeks. Even FEMA, he said, called him to inquire.

TINIAN

From Page 1

But San Nicolas says this activity would be an “economic chokehold” on Tinian, noting its growing tourism industry, and denial of customary and traditional rights as live-fire operations would limit access to gathering and fishing sites.

San Nicolas is also concerned at the apparent lack of mitigation for the construction and operation of live-fire ranges. Up to 3,000 personnel will be on Tinian during operations phase, essentially doubling the island’s population during these times. DoD says this will cause “no significant impact”

In a nutshell, the letter describes “legal deficiencies” with the CNMI Joint Military Training EIS and demands that the military rethink its plans.

“Let us be clear: the people of Tinian oppose and will continue to oppose any plans to carry out the training described in the CJMT EIS. We will do everything that we can—legally, politically, and socially—to protect our families, our culture, and our island.”

San Nicolas demands that the Department of Defense:

- Provide the people of Tinian with an accurate assessment of environmental justice concerns;

- Prepare a single environmental impact statement that addresses all connected and cumulative actions that will impact the island of Tinian and the CNMI;

- Correct a flawed discussion with regards to alternatives discussed in the DEIS;

- Comply with the National Historic Preservation Act;

- Adequately assess the impacts to endangered species as required by the Endangered Species Act; and

- Adequately assess the impact to marine mammals required by the Marine Mammals Protection Act.

Marianas Forces Pacific was sent a request for comment but *Saipan Tribune* did not receive a

BUDGET

From Page 1

ment personnel.

“With the raises, where would the money come from? Does it make sense to raise...the salary of law enforcement officers and take away to fund their bullets or to fund their tires? Those are the concerns,” Blanco said.

That “decision” could either be signed budget approving the \$145-million budget as a whole, or with line-item vetoes. Or possibly a complete veto of the budget.

The Senate and House representatives have presented a budget to Inos that directs the Marianas Visitors Authority to modify its budget programs to the tune of \$2.5 million. These program cuts—from Inos-directed earmarks—will make up for the shortfall of funds left after Senate provisions move appropriated money to fund salary increases and adjustments, among other provisions.

Inos earlier called these proposed directives an “invasion” of MVA programs. On Wednesday, though, Inos told *Saipan Tribune* that this depends on

how the lawmakers “cut” MVA earmarks.

As the budget bill “modifies” MVA programs, funds remain in the MVA account, Inos said. He noted that this was a “legal issue,” and deferred to the CNMI Attorney General’s Office.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), one of the two that voted “no” to the budget bill on Wednesday, maintains that the use of MVA funds are unconstitutional.

Villagomez told reporters after the vote on Wednesday that because the budget bill allocates MVA earmarks outside the gen-

eral fund, the bill is “over” the \$145-million ceiling set by concurrent resolution.

“There were bills that were supposed to support all [the law enforcement raises] but are still sitting, collecting dust,” he said, referring to House Bills 19-36, 19-48, and 19-60.

“It would have taken care of the law enforcement without having to mess with the constitutionality of the budget,” said Villagomez. “I feel that this budget is unconstitutional.”

The current Legislature and Inos have passed only seven laws so far.

Saipan Mayor's Office moves into villages for cleanups

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After helping clear Beach Road of debris left behind by Typhoon Soudelor, the Saipan Mayor's Office is now training its sights to remove debris inside Saipan's villages.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang said his office continues to receive calls from people in villages requesting for debris removal, mostly trees blocking pathways or lying on top of their homes.

Apatang earlier said his office is working with the Department of Public Works and the Depart-

ment of Public Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Parks and Recreation in cleaning up the island. The Emergency Operations Center is coordinating the islandwide cleanup effort.

Saipan Mayor's Office special assistant Henry Hofschneider said the EOC directs the Saipan Mayor's Office on where to clean up.

"But yes, we are already clearing debris in the villages," he said.

In related news, Hofschneider said they have already spoken with two representatives of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to assess the

damaged facilities of the Saipan Mayor's Office, but they have had no updates so far.

The Saipan Mayor's Office animal shelter in Lower Base will need more than \$100,000

to repair the damage sustained from Typhoon Soudelor. Hofschneider said that FEMA had given them 60 days since Aug. 19 to come up with the shelter's damage cost and what needs to be repaired.

"When we met with the FEMA representatives, they gave us what we needed to put for documentation... So we still don't have the cost of damage yet and what they will be giving us," he said.

Woman pleads guilty to 'ice' possession

Xiu Hui Wang, a 37-year-old woman who was one of four Chinese nationals arrested by the CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force last May for allegedly selling methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan, has pleaded guilty in Superior Court.

Wang, also known as Sister, pleaded guilty on Wednesday to two counts of illegal possession of controlled substance as part of a plea deal. Two counts of trafficking of a controlled substance were dropped.

Wang will be sentenced on Oct. 28, 2015, at 1:30pm. Asso-

ciate Judge David A. Wiseman is presiding over the case.

Wang is represented by Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig.

Police said a cooperating source managed to buy \$180 worth of "ice" from Wang at the cooperating source's residence on Capital Hill last April 15 and \$180 worth of "ice" the following day.

CNMI Drug Enforcement Task Force arrested Wang last May 13 along with three other Chinese nationals for allegedly engaging in "ice" trafficking. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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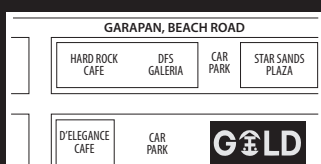
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MVA approves \$60K for image campaign in Korea

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority board has approved \$60,000 in funding for two familiarization tours for the Korean ad-hoc committee to improve the image of Saipan following the devastation wrought by Typhoon Soudelor.

MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman presented the two projects to the board last Wednesday, calling it "Return to normalcy FAMS."

"The Korea ad-hoc committee has met several times since the typhoon to discuss possible disaster mitigation projects with FAM tours highlighting those discussions. At the last full quorum meeting on Sept.

15, the plan was approved," Bateman said.

The project will inform tour agents that Saipan has returned to normal and the best way to get the word out is to bring key agents to Saipan to see for themselves and spread the news through their networks.

Bateman said the projects would include a tour in October involving 22 key agents.

Another part of the plan includes Korean tourists who need to be reassured that the visitor experience on Saipan is still top quality.

"That is best done via Korean media outlets. Since direct advertising is beyond the budget of the committee, a media [familiarization tour] to bring key media sources

to Saipan will be arranged as well in October. Travel trade media will also be invited to reinforce the FAM message," he said.

The exact amount the board approved for the Korean ad-hoc committee totaled \$59,910. Some \$30,000 will

be for the agents' FAM tour and some \$29,000 would be for the media FAM tour.

MVA board chair Marian Aldan-Pierce and board member James Nelson asked for further details on the particular agents and media that would be coming to the islands.

Visiting ENT specialist at CHC

Dr. Richard Wagner, an ear-nose-and-throat physician, will be providing services at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Family Care Clinic from Sept. 30 through Oct. 9, 2015. He is available to see patients with the following symptoms: hearing loss, draining/recurrent ear infections, neck masses, recur-

rent throat infections, children with ear infections, and nasal blockage

Please see your primary care physician so that a referral can be made to the Family Care Clinic. If you have any questions, please call the CHCC Family Care Clinic at 234-8950, 236-8372 or 236-8374. (CHCC)



SUPPORTIVE EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Twenty-three-year-old Erika Desebel, who works as a Players Club host, said that having a supportive employer such as Best Sunshine International, Ltd. "is very beneficial to us who are struggling to stabilize our lives after the devastation of Typhoon Soudelor, especially for me who is a single mom. Thank you, Best Sunshine, for caring."

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LOCATIONS - Saipan & Rota



Public School System

PUBLIC NOTICE

The CNMI Public School System will hold a public meeting on Monday, October 5, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Commissioner of Education's Conference Room to review the Rural Development loan application. The loan proceeds will be used to construct 10 additional classrooms on Saipan (with 2 kindergarten classrooms at GES, 2 kindergarten classrooms at SVES, 2 kindergarten classrooms at OES, 2 kindergarten classrooms at Koblerville Elementary School, and 2 classrooms at Dandan Middle School), pave the Sinapalo Elementary School parking lot, pave the Tinian Elementary School parking lot and replace the pad-mounted transformer at Kagman Elementary School. The public is cordially invited to attend this meeting and comment on the proposed projects.



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT



INVITATION TO BID RE-ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITB15-DFEMS-114

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2015 TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF TWO (2) 2015 MODEL YEAR PERSONAL WATERCRAFT TO BE USED FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ CLAUDIO K. NORITA
COMMISSIONER, DFEMS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT



INVITATION TO BID RE-ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITB15-DFEMS-115

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2015 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF 140 COMPLETE SET OF BRAND NEW 2015 MODEL YEAR FIREFIGHTER TURN-OUT GEAR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE.

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/S/ CLAUDIO K. NORITA
COMMISSIONER, DFEMS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Haze across Marianas comes from off-island wildfires

Several wildfires across Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Northern Australia are the cause for the haze across the Marianas, according to the National Weather Service's Forecast Office in Tiyan, Guam, yesterday.

Southwest winds are bringing this haze toward the southern hemisphere from Australia and Papua New Guinea and heading toward the Marianas.

NWS expects the haze to clear today due to the winds from a tropical disturbance moving through Chuuk.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. advises residents with respiratory issues and aller-

gies to be alert for the haze outdoors as it may have an effect on them. If you experience difficulty in breathing or encounter allergies, proceed to the Commonwealth Health Center emergency room or call 234-8950.

Although this haze is no threat to the CNMI, residents and visitors are advised to listen and stay informed for the latest statements and forecasts from the NWS and the CNMI Emergency Operations Center. Keep alert for any statements from local officials or call the CNMI Emergency Operations Center at (670) 237-8000 or on HF single side band radio at frequency 5.205.0. **(HSEM)**



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CNMI Judiciary operations schedule

Business hours for the CNMI Judiciary on Saipan for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 28, 29 and 30, will be 8am to 5pm.

Business hours for the CNMI Judiciary on Saipan for Thursday and Friday, Oct. 1 and 2, will be 8am until noon.

On Rota and Tinian, business hours will be 7:30am to 4:30pm, Monday, Sept. 28, through Friday, Oct. 2.

Changes to this schedule, and the Judiciary's schedule for the week beginning Monday, Oct. 5, 2015, will be disseminated on the Judiciary's website, www.justice.gov.mp, and through other media.

The partial day operations on Saipan are expected to continue until issues associated with fuel availability for standby power generation are resolved. **(NMI Judiciary)**

Military training at Farallon de Medinilla

The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Sept. 27 from midnight to 4am and 9am to 11:55pm
- Sept. 28 from midnight to 4am and 7:30-9:30pm
- Sept. 29 from midnight to 4am and 4:30-11:30pm
- Sept. 30 from 3:30-11:30pm
- Oct. 1 from 2:45-5:30pm

and 8-10pm

■ Oct. 2 from 11:15am to 1:15pm and 6-8pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the area during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. **(PR)**

CCA board meeting on Sept. 29

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 29,

2015, starting at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. **(CCA)**

SLLBI 2016 board elections on Oct. 10

Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc. will hold its general membership meeting for the election of 2016 board members on Oct. 10, 9am at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium pavilion. All managers, coaches, parents, and interested individuals are encouraged to attend. **(PR)**



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TAXIWAYS B & H REHABILITATION PROJECT AIP No. 3-69-0002-79/83

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms to perform construction management (CM) services for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport Taxiways B & H Rehabilitation Project, AIP Nos. 3-69-0002-79/83, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Scope of Work (SOW) includes overall construction management services for the duration of the project. Details are available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package.

Questions regarding this request for qualification (RFQ) statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant, in writing via hand delivery to the CPA Administration Office, via fax to (670) 664-3533 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp or cpa.engr@pticom.com by no later than Friday, September 18, 2015, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Overall CM experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands – 30 points;
2. CM experience related to airport paving projects – 30 points;
3. Level of proficiency in performing CM services promptly; and level of experience with the FAA regulations and requirements and AIP grants – 15 points;
4. The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of CM work experience, firm's ability to perform the services and the firm's professional integrity and competence – 15 points; and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable – 10 points.

Interested consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, OCTOBER 9, 2015**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified construction management firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOROI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: September 8, 2015



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRSIDE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICES (PERIMETER FENCE/ROADSIDE/DITCH/ AND RESTRICTED AREA GRASS CUTTING) PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-001-16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals for perimeter fence/roadside/ditch and restricted area grass cutting at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing continuous grounds maintenance services for the Airport as described in the scope of work. The **proposal package** will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning **September 11, 2015**. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Proposers shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Airside Grounds Maintenance Services for Perimeter Fence/Roadside/Ditch and Restricted Area Grass Cutting at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport." One original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 PM, October 2, 2015, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

A **pre-proposal conference** will be held at the CPA Departure Terminal Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, on **September 25th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective proposers may attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director in writing at least 7 days prior to the pre-proposal conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director



DR. DONALD C. HARDT, SR.
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235-2030

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ASQ-3 is a set of questionnaires about children's development. It has been used for more than 20 years to make sure children are developing well. It is called a screener because it looks at how children are doing in important areas, such as:

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HOW IS YOUR BABY GROWING?



If you have any concerns about your child's development, contact the Children's Developmental Assistance Center (CDAC) at 664-4841



This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number H25MC06112, Community-Based Integrated Service Systems - Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grant.

Teacher rep election is now law



Gov. Eloy S. Inos sits with education leaders and a lawmaker at the signing of a bill to allow for the election of a teacher representative on the Board of Education. From left, are Sen. Justo Quitugua, Inos, Education Board chair Herman Guerrero, and Education Board member Denise King.

DENNIS B. CHAN

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed into law Wednesday a bill that paves the way for the election of a teacher representative on the CNMI State Board of Education. The board had been pushing relentlessly for years to have a teacher rep on board and had asked Inos to appoint one via executive order.

However, the NMI Constitution mandates that the appointment process of the teacher representative be set up by the Legislature. That finally got done Wednesday, with Senate Bill 19-03 now becoming Public Law 19-7.

"The teachers now should have a true representative on the

Board of Education where their voices and their needs can be heard," said Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan), author of the bill, in an interview after Inos signed it into law. "They can work together, so they can provide the necessary needs of the schools and teachers."

Inos, for his part, said he was happy the Public School System had a "champion in the Legislature," referring to Quitugua.

Board of Education member Denise King, who was present at the bill's signing, thanked the governor for providing a "voice" for teachers on the board.

"They are in the trenches," King said, referring to PSS teachers. "They know better than we do" and are the "missing link" to find out the issues

that teachers are facing throughout the Public School System.

The bill sets up a general election for the teacher representative during the first week of October each year. Only teachers are eligible to be a candidate and only teachers are eligible to vote for one candidate on the ballot.

A runoff election will be held during the first week of November for the two candidates who received the highest number of votes. In the event of a tie, the runoff election will be repeated until a majority vote is won.

The PSS education commissioner will then submit the name of the teacher with highest votes to the CNMI governor, who will then make the appointment to the board.

Weekend Food Fair!

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Assistance for survivors with disabilities, seniors, families

The Disability Network Partners on Saipan will be at the Disaster Recovery Center in Susupe on Sept. 28-30. They will be there to provide extra technical support and resources to individuals with disabilities, senior citizens, and their families who are seeking FEMA and or other disaster assistance. They will be on hand from 9am to 3pm, which is with-

in but not the same hours that the DRC is open.

Representatives from one or more of these groups will be available at the DRC: Council on Developmental Disabilities; University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities; Office of Vocational Rehabilitation; Center for Living Independently; Independent

Living Group; State Rehabilitation Council; Statewide Independent Living Council; Autism Society of the CNMI; Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc.; VOICES Self Advocacy Group of the CNMI; Commonwealth Respite Service Program; Trankilu Alternative Financing Program; Commonwealth Coalition on Anti-Stigma of Mental Illness; CNMI Office of Transportation Authority; and Commonwealth Advocates for Relief Efforts.

Anyone needing reasonable accommodation at any time, call 235-7273/4 or visit NMPA-SI. (FEMA)

RTCP deadline extended for NMI producers

BARRIGADA, Guam—Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Farm Service Agency County executive director Thomas Camacho announced Wednesday the extension of the deadline to sign up for Reimbursement of Transportation Cost Payment, or RTCP, to Oct. 9, 2015, for CNMI producers. This extension will assist producers who have had problems accessing communication systems following Typhoon Soudelor and may have missed the program deadline.

The program offsets portions of the costs of transporting agricultural products over long distances. The program allows farmers and ranchers in Alaska, Hawaii and insular areas including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Virgin Islands of the United States,

Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Republic of Palau, to recover transportation costs.

Payments are calculated based on the costs incurred for transportation of the agricultural commodity or inputs, subject to an \$8,000 per producer cap per federal fiscal year. In the event that claims for payments exceed the funds available from the program for a fiscal year, payments will be reduced on a pro-rata basis. Applicants will have until Nov. 2, 2015, to provide supporting documentation.

For more information on the RTCP, farmers and ranchers in the eligible areas can contact their FSA county office at (670) 234-0896 or review the fact sheet online at www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/rtpc_2015.pdf. To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>. (FSA)

High surf advisory until Saturday

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center, monsoon winds well southeast of Tropical Storm Djuan will generate swell large enough to produce high surf for the next day or two.

A high surf advisory is now in effect until 6am Saturday. Expect hazardous surf of 7 to 10 feet along west facing reefs. Surf will continue through Friday before slowly subsiding Friday night.

The general public is being advised to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those facing west as rip currents will be life threatening. (HSEM)



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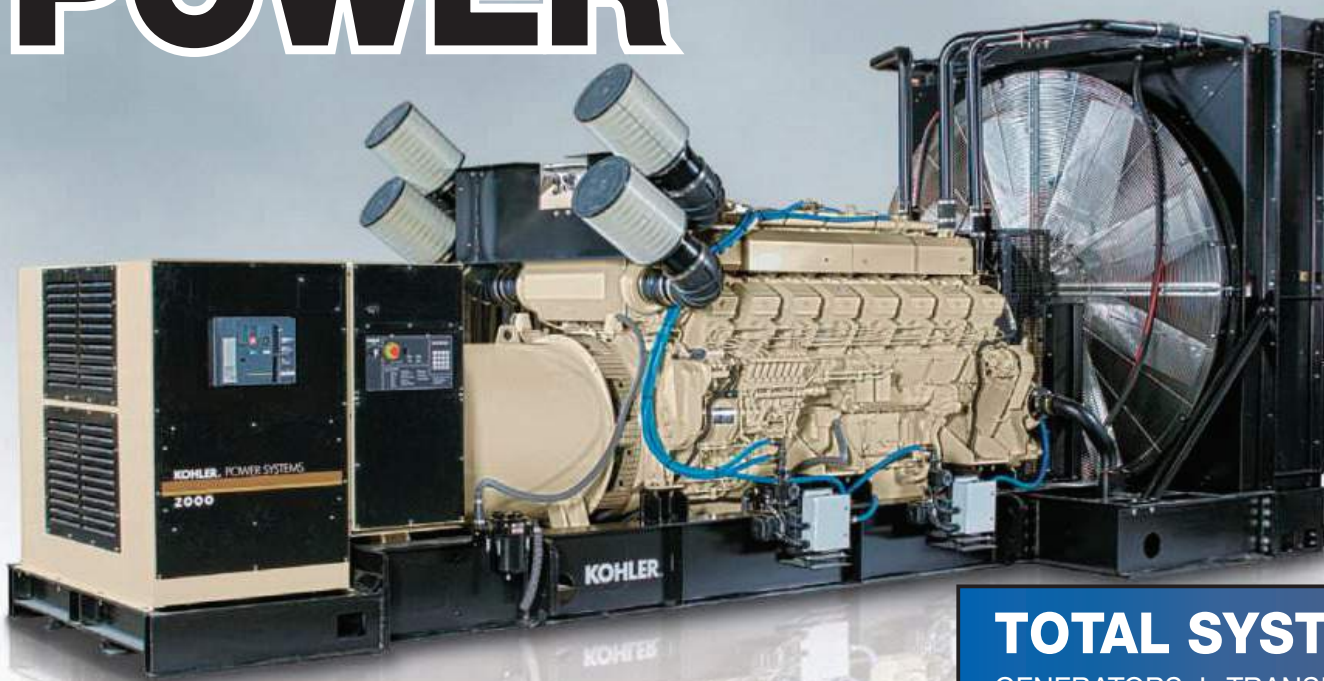
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

A moral voice vs an immoral force

On his four-day visit to Cuba, Pope Francis called for forgiveness and spiritual transformation in a land that has seen little of either in decades. Multitudes eager to hear his message responded with rousing cheers. Cuba's rulers responded with police-state tactics.

Raul Castro set the tone. He was all smiles at the arrival ceremony, happy to share the stage with the leader of the world's Roman Catholics. But Cuba's president inserted a political advertisement into the cordial event by demanding that the United States return the naval base at Guantanamo Bay, a stunningly inappropriate issue to raise at the welcoming ceremony.

Boorish but typical, and it was downhill from there. Cuban authorities carried out a series of repressive actions while the pontiff was on the island, focusing on dissidents. Some of them had been among the relative few explicitly invited by the Holy See to take part in papal audiences.

According to a variety of reports, authorities made sure at least two prominent dissidents were unable to attend public events where they could greet the pope. Both Marta Beatriz Roque and Miriam Leiva were detained on Saturday before one such event, and were also kept from a vespers service with the pope on Sunday at Havana's historic cathedral.

In addition, some 20 other members of the opposition group Las Damas de Blanco (Ladies in White) were reportedly banned from a celebration of Mass by the pope. Activists passing out pamphlets at the service were seized by the police.

Pope Francis was on a spiritual mission to bring an uplifting moral message to Cubans trapped in the grip of an immoral dictatorship. But in Cuba, politics affects every aspect of daily life, and religion is no exception. A church seeking to expand space for the kind of charitable, educational and social activities it runs in other countries is deemed a potential threat to the state, and thus the state only grudgingly grants it more freedom to operate. Papal homilies, in keeping with this *modus vivendi*, steer clear of explicit political content.

Within these confines, the pontiff aimed some carefully worded critiques at the authorities. On an island ruled by Marxist dogma, he urged Cubans to serve one another and not an ideology.

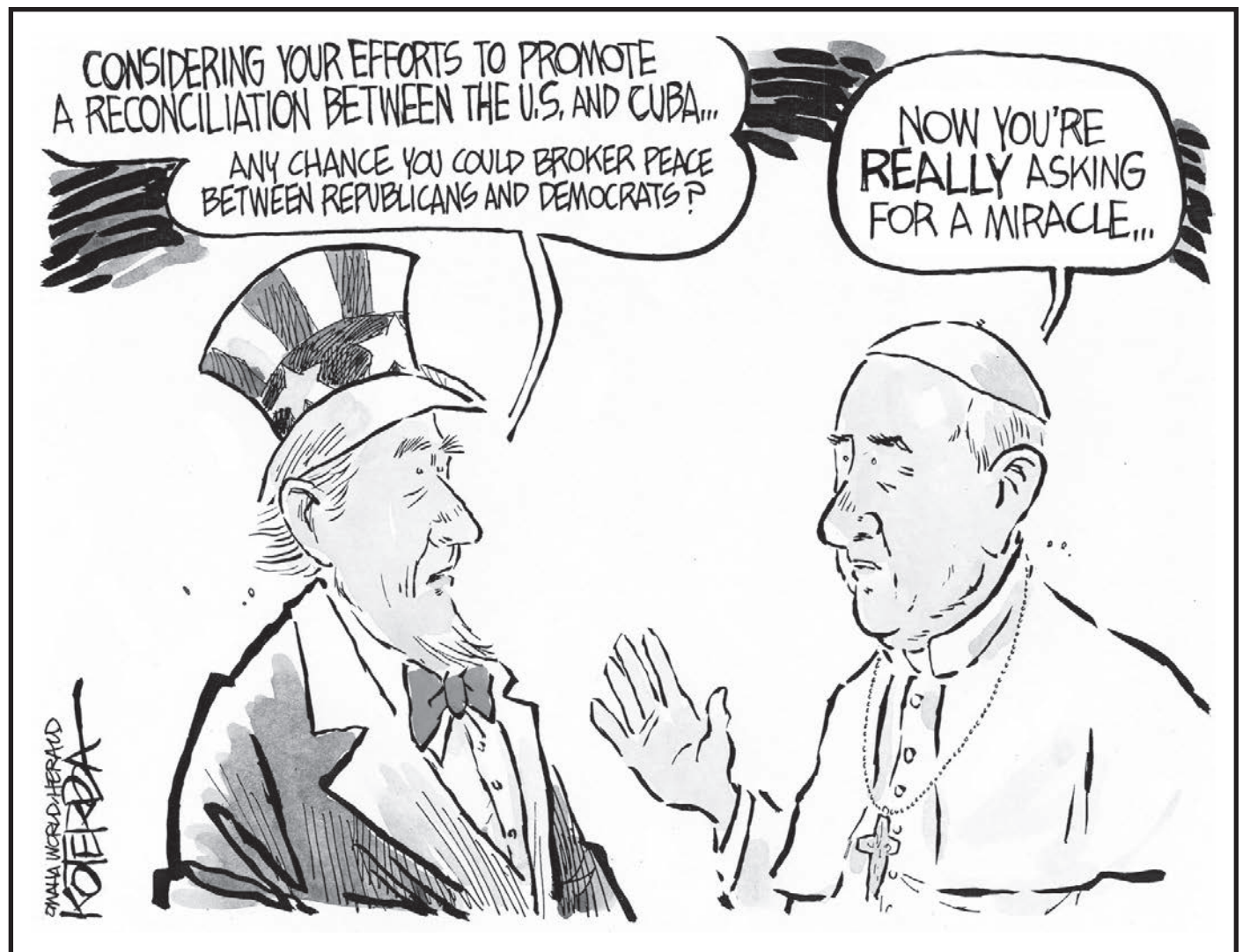
And he also encouraged Cubans to refrain from "looking to one side or the other to see what our neighbor is doing or not doing" which seemed a clear reference to the state's odious network of neighborhood spies.

The church's patient statecraft has given it greater freedom of action and made it easier for believers to practice their faith. But in doing so, the church runs the risk of being too careful instead of taking a bold stance on behalf of human rights in Cuba.

That would be a mistake of historic proportions. The Cuban people will long remember who has been at their side in this time of trial against a state that shows no sign of remorse or retreat. They need a fearless champion.

Recall the admonition of Pope John Paul II in 1998 to the Cuban people: "Do not be afraid." The church itself must take these words to heart.

(c)2015 Miami Herald



Mooncakes and Native Americans

August 15 in the Chinese calendar is the mid-Autumn mooncake festival (*zhongqiu jie*, a family reunion time). Do not ask how that differs from the solar calendar since China combines both the lunar (29.5 days lunar cycle) and the solar (365.24 days a year). But the lunar one determines the festival as the sky always shows a full moon mid-August, thus the mooncake allusion. In the Gregorian calendar 2015, that's Sept. 27.

The circular pastry of a mooncake is appropriate to remind one of the unity of all things. That unity was originally observed with the eldest in a clan cutting the mooncake into pieces and distributing it around the folks gathered for the occasion. Now, s/he just distributes the wrapped mooncakes to members of the family, with the pastry losing its gastronomic value over the symbolic power of a gathered clan.

Reunion and gathering were seen separately. The reunion was for the wife to visit her own family without accompaniment of husband before joining the family gathering of his—a subtle denigration of the wife from a social status perspective but in the yin-yang tradition of holding opposites within the same circle, the separate clans for the wife and the husband are equally important.

I once helped launch a community consultation in Vogan, Manitoba, among forgotten natives *Metis* (mixed blood) who intermarried with the European and other Caucasian fur trappers, excluded from being classified with Canada's Reserve Indians of the "pure bloods." *Metis* in Regina and Saskatoon of Saskatchewan, and Winnipeg in Manitoba, led a dismal existence.

The Okie in Uptown Chicago, originally with the Oklahoma territory where the U.S. once gathered Native Americans (Shawnee, Cherokee, Apache, Seminole, Cheyenne, Dakota, *et al*) to Oklahoma, fared no better.

It was a visit to the Hulunbuir area in Inner Mongolia in 2012 when we ran into a tribe in E'rguna that tended deer and other wildlife. They knew themselves to be related to the forebears of migrants to North America, crossing the Bering Straits down to the Prairies and the Plains, the East Coast, the Southwest and the South. Perhaps their Turkic physical features number them among those who crisscrossed the Argun River that connects to the Amur of the Far East of Russian Siberia bordering into China's Province of Heilongjiang. It was at the small river town of Shiwei, with their famed city square spark-spitting bonfire under the moon, where we met Russian-speaking Chinese and Chinese-speaking Russians.

Their proud demeanor reminded me of the Cheyenne-Arapaho Indians that I chanced meeting later, not to mention tribes associated with the Olmec and the Maya, the Aztec and the Inca in Sud-America.

Native Americans are known for having a term for all the full moons of the year, including the blue moon, the fourth moon of a

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

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three-month season in the northern hemisphere. The lunar is shorter by 11 days than the solar calendar so once every two-and-a-half Gregorian reckoning is an extra full moon, from where the romantically labeled "blue moon" derives from. Two full moons occur in the same 29.5-day period.

The moon in January goes with the wolf, in February with the snow, and March gets the worm. It turns pink in April, after a species of early blooming wildflower; the generic flower is in May, and the strawberry in June. July gets us the buck (male deer), but August is for the sturgeon, the scale-less fish roe better known as caviar. September gets the harvest moon hand's down, October honors the hunter; November brings out the beaver, and December, the cold moon.

Clearly, Native Americans hear the echoes of the grasslands of Inner Mongolia where long ago, in the fullness of the moon, the unity of life was affirmed and the power of the mooncake was felt.

Tracing ethnicity is a futile exercise if one is after purity. All humankind descended from West Africa and our DNA is 97 percent similar. Still, the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the United States started one of Whitey's misguided actions when it moved scattered Native Americans to east of the Mississippi River, Oklahoma in 1820. There were 65 tribes involved including the Cherokee's famed "Trail of Tears."

Sixty years later, Congress passed the China Exclusion Act, making the distant relatives of the Native American a no-no to U.S. Immigration. Sometime in between, the nation convulsed in a Civil War over the emancipation of slaves from West Africa.

Relating Native Americans to mooncakes of the Asian grasslands is not gerrymandering cultural anthropology; we've always considered Native Americans to be of Mongolian origins, related to North China.

We find the Mid-Autumn Festival of China serendipitously coinciding and compatible to the Native American emphasis in today's U.S. calendar. We pride ourselves as a multi-ethnic diverse country, Charleston SC notwithstanding, and it is nigh time we salute the first settlers of the American prairies and plains.

Here, have a mooncake.

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Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Domo Arigato, Pepper Roboto

Autumn is officially here, but I'm still catching up to June. June, in turn, allows us to catch up to a story we looked at earlier, namely the development of a robot called Pepper. This story was destined for the west Pacific, and now is the time for an update.

Although Pepper's original developer was a French company, the famously technophilic Japan was host to the robot's market launch in June. We can expect that, sooner or later, these, or similar, robots, will arrive on Saipan.

As for Pepper's June product launch, it was a wild success: 1,000 robots were sold within a one-minute time span. The price was reported at about \$1,600 for the robot plus about \$200 a month for data and maintenance.

Pepper stands about four feet tall and rolls on wheels, but if you can overlook the wheels-instead-of-legs thing, Pepper has a roughly human structure in sort of a space-alien sort of way.

Pepper is a companion robot, which was programmed to recognize, and respond to, human emotions such as facial expressions. It speaks several languages, it hears, and it sees. So it was designed for repartee, and not designed to be an appliance-of-burden that will do your laundry for you.

Still, mere engagement can have its own practicality. So I'm sure that Pepper, or its conceptual cousins, will become a common sight in the tourism industry, making the rounds of hotel lobbies and restaurants to draw the attention of customers. One thing I've had drilled into my head in the customer service realm is that guests should be acknowledged as soon as they enter the premises. Many a tourism manager must be interested in the notion of allowing a couple of Peppers handling that duty 24/7, doing a tag-team routine so one can recharge and have a cigarette while the other presses the flesh. Er, presses the plastic.

For any business I've ever worked with, a two grand acquisition

cost for hardware is peanuts. On the other hand, a \$200 a month ongoing cost is not peanuts, but we'll just have to see how the competitive dynamics of the industry work themselves out.

Meanwhile, Pepper is being groomed for its stateside debut. Toward that end, according to a Sept. 16 report in the *MIT Technology Review*, Pepper is being programmed to have an element of sarcasm in its personality in order to better mesh with American culture.

This leads me to wonder if soon owners of Pepper will be able to select its personality from a menu of choices. Pepper is connected to the Net, and there are already hundreds of "apps" available for it.

Will humanoid robots be the next big thing, shaking up life, commerce, and society as much as personal computing did? Or is their true potential sufficiently distant that they'll remain expensive novelties in the near future?

I don't know, but maybe they're on the cusp of ubiquity, and, like personal computers, they'll find their way into offices and businesses before they wind up in living rooms and kitchens.

And, assuming that they are the next big thing, my bet is that whatever is popular in, say, five years, will be something that most of us can't even envision today. For all we know, people will be having love affairs with their toasters. That specter is no more absurd than being told, back in the day, that people would wind up staring at their telephones for hours per day.

Robots, as living room concepts if not household products, have captured the public fancy for as long as I can remember. I remember magazines in the '70s that had photos of robots, and many of them had that cool, futuristic-retro flavor of the '50s. I don't think they did anything but flash a few lights here and there, if that. But, hey, the future was going to arrive any minute now. Or year. Or decade. Or, ahem, century.

Even non-humanoid, cinematic robots could make an impression on you. For example, in 1972, a sci-fi movie called *Silent Running*

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



came out. Yeah, that was a long time ago, but that's the point, because I still remember the sad scene in which one of the robots met with a bad fate. And it wasn't even a humanoid robot. It looked like a cross between a pug-nosed air-conditioner and a Ford electronic ignition module. Pretty, it wasn't. Still, we felt sorry for the thing.

OK, so much for the past, or the future as envisioned by the past, which leads us back to the future envisioned at the present, and, well, that's enough for now.

Anyway: robots. They're already being sold in Japan, so Saipan will surely be in play, too.

The military takeover of the Marianas

By PETER J. PEREZ

SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The day will come when we will look back on these post-Soudelor days and nights with a mixture of nostalgia and sadness. We will remember the damage to our homes and possessions and the hard work cleaning and clearing debris, the hot sleepless nights, the mosquitoes, the shortages, the lines and the worry. We will remember how we helped and were helped, how we consoled and were comforted, and how, together, with help from many, we endured, we rebuilt, and we resumed our lives.

And from the vantage point of years from now, we will also remember that while we were distracted, the U.S. Navy moved closer to its goal of militarizing our islands and using them for bombing ranges.

Even before the Navy began its move, the U.S. military already had extensive areas of the Marianas under their control. They occupied fully half of the northern third of Guam along with huge areas in the south, including the island's only lake. They had most of the land around Apra Harbor, and numerous other large areas of Guam that, together, make up a third of Guam's entire land mass. Here in the CNMI, they had a long-term lease on two thirds of Tinian, land around Tanapag Harbor and the entire island of Farallon de Medinilla. They had also managed to convince our leaders to allow them to anchor supply ships off our tourist beaches.

Most of the Navy and the Air Force presence up to that point involved active or potential military bases. Military bases, although always controversial, are busy active places. They bring jobs and opportunities to the communities that host them. But starting in 2010, the Navy began to look at our islands for something altogether different—live-fire training ranges.

The year 2010 marks the beginning of the Navy's series of proposals to turn the Marianas into the world's largest bombing range. That is the year the Mariana Islands Range Complex proposal, or MIRC, was approved. The MIRC created a half-billion-square nautical mile live-fire training range that surrounds Guam, Rota, Tinian, Saipan and all but the furthest islands to the north. The MIRC authorized live-fire on and in the land, air, and sea throughout the training range.

Soudelor winds began to blow on Aug. 1, the day after the Navy announced its Record of Decision for another proposal—the Mariana Islands Training and Testing Area. The MITT doubled the area of the MIRC to nearly a billion square nautical miles. It also greatly increased the level of the Navy's deadly sonar and live-fire ordnance testing and training in CNMI waters. The MITT plan allows the Navy to damage or kill over 6 square miles of endangered coral reefs plus an additional 20 square miles of coral reef around FDM through the use of highly explosive bombs. It ups the rate of explosive bombing from 2,150 bombs per year to over 6,000 bombs per year, increasing the Navy's bombing of FDM by roughly 300 percent.

See **MARIANAS** on Page 13

Resetting buttons a must

Some of us are curious of the way forward amidst projections of significant revenue losses prompted by two disasters. More specifically, what's the projected loss versus recovery figures and would projections on sustainability a workable amount?

As much as we'd like to be optimistic, if everything begins at point "A" for the entire business community, CUC, CHC, and other Cs then it makes for some nervous and very uncertain projections ahead. Would there be sufficient funds for the settlement fund, \$60 million for CUC's diesel fuel, \$30-plus million to pay old debts with CUC; at least \$82 million for PSS and CHC and other obligations?

Of the projected \$145 million for this fiscal year, how much does the administration and Legislature see as losses at this point, an optimistic figure for recovery and is the figure a sustainable number? It's all subject to speculation, right? So the \$145 million may only be met at the halfway mark, right?

In brief, the worse of the bad times has just started creeping in. Are we seeing this on the monitor on an "eye level" basis? Is there at least some perceptual idea what's coming down the pike and realistic alternatives for when our fiscal titanic topples over?

We already hit rock bottom fiscally before the two disasters came. Another creeping disaster on permanent order isn't going to help us any. We'd definitely engage use of insanity juggling the same figures hoping for different results! There's nothing but pessimism up that alley, people. Troubling!

We could only create a picture and a fuzzy one at best on what's in the near term. Trust me. This isn't going to be a walk in the park but more like inching our way in the dark.

Moreover, the administration is set to ask the federal government for a postponement of the next increase in federal minimum wage. It would have raised it to \$6.55 per hour over the current rate of \$6.05 per hour. Keeping it at bay at this point makes sense. You would want to spare folks their jobs!

With an economic depression loaded with the unpredictability of heavy revenue loss, there's no imagining how do we re-arrange the chairs on the deck that is halfway down. It's bad enough that the NMI has had to endure nearly a decade of income stagnancy where basic goods and costs have skyrocketed while salaries remain the same.

I tried to retain some semblance of hope in what lies ahead. But it's steadily drowned in the sea of "hopelessness" somewhat helplessly. When the third wave of real hardship hits it really doesn't matter what your political stripes may be. It's hell all over the Marianas, an excellent historical point for a novel or movie!

Is there still resiliency to wave off the deepening hardship with a

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



strong declaration of "this too shall pass?" Well, it seems hope now has headed down divinity path riding heavily on speculative investments. Hence, the only certainty is uncertainty!

Every corner of a huge seismic fiscal destruction would be difficult to take for granted, navigate or rebuild. The future moves forward never backwards! Trying to make up ground where funds are scarce would entail unprecedented juggling between here and Washington, D.C.

Politics of donations

As revenue generation heads south, something else slowly makes its way up north: donations from big firms here. Remember the \$10 million utility subsidy that came out a day before the last gubernatorial election? This is what's building up, slow as it may seem. What does it mean?






Business firms with tons of money to throw around are into loyalty buying. It changes what we as citizens have learned about the responsibility of building strong governance relying on personal integrity to make such determination. Now, we've been corralled to a stock auction to sell to the highest donor. Screw personal integrity as citizens in a democracy.

Good work by the newest Samaritan on the block. Nonetheless, if it matters to you as responsible citizens, then you need to probe responsibly: Why the generosity? For instance, the donation of thousands of dollars to a certain office would cover employment of temporary employees. But then who covers for liability? Or is this a new way of financing the budgetary shortfall in the unnecessary layers of local government?

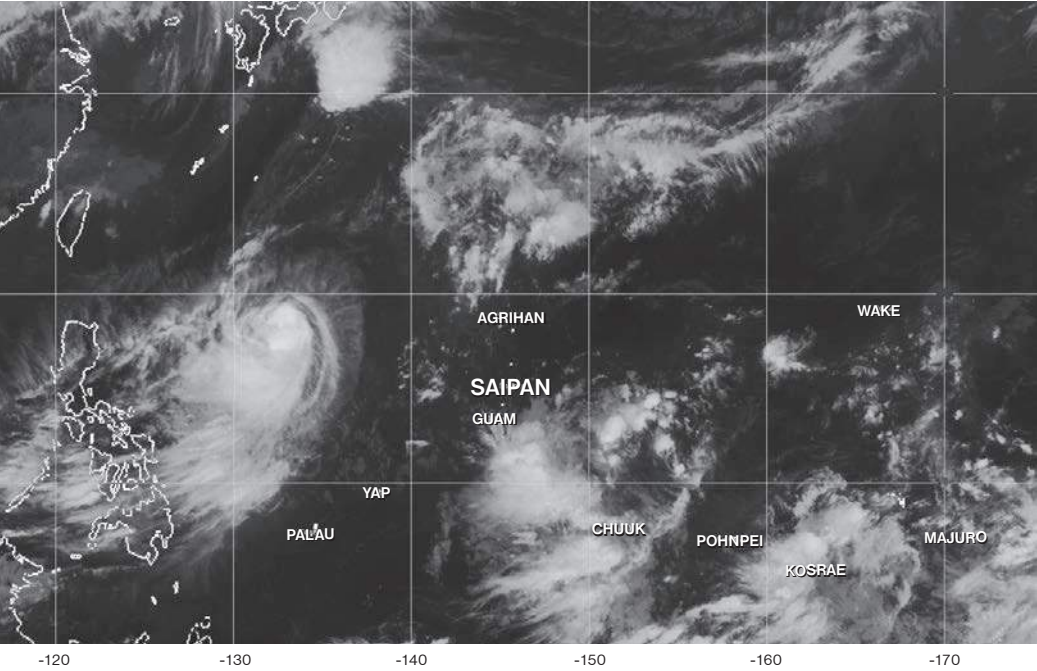
Well, let's play some preliminary insanity game with budget figures. The much publicized \$145 million FY 2016 budget would fall by the wayside big time. In other words, take some \$40 million to \$50 million right off the top, less 80 percent for payroll. We would have less than \$20 million for ALL others. PSS and CHC need not less than \$82 million. Do you get a sense of shortfalls all over?

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Djuan (21W) is centered 685 miles southwest of Iwo To Island at 19N133E, moving west-northwest at 9 mph with maximum sustained winds of 60 mph. Numerous showers and thunderstorms are within 125 miles of 17N132E. Elsewhere, scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are in patchy areas west of a line from 20N137E to 10N134E to 8N130E. For more information on Tropical Storm Djuan, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. A monsoon trough runs southeastward from Tropical Storm Djuan at 19N133E through a tropical disturbance centered northeast of Chuuk at 10N153E then eastward to beyond the date line at 9N180. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms southeast of Guam across Chuuk state are within 175 miles of a line from 12N147E to 5N149E to 2N154E and across Kosrae state south of a line from 2N154E to 8N165E to 7N169E and across the Marshall Islands south of 11N from 170E to 180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 77
Palau	Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 74
Yap	Haze	▲ 86	▼ 76
Chuuk	Light Rain Shower	▲ 81	▼ 75
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 89	▼ 78
Kosrae	Light Rain with Thunder	▲ 81	▼ 75
Majuro	Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 78

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63	▼ 52
Beijing	Fog	▲ 73	▼ 64
Hong Kong	Fair	▲ 90	▼ 73
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 84	▼ 70
London	Clear	▲ 45	▼ 42
Los Angeles	Clear	▲ 75	▼ 64
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88	▼ 77
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 57	▼ 43
Miami	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 82	▼ 75
New York	Clear	▲ 66	▼ 56
Osaka	Light Rain	▲ 72	▼ 63
Paris	Clear	▲ 52	▼ 46
Pusan	Light Rain	▲ 72	▼ 66
Rome	Fair	▲ 57	▼ 54
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 71	▼ 65
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62	▼ 51
Seoul	Fair	▲ 82	▼ 52
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 73	▼ 63
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 63	▼ 55



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
5:12 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
12:08 AM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.0 Feet
6:50 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
-	-	-	-

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:06 AM	6:11 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:11 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Tuesday	6:07 AM	6:08 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	3:46 PM	2:49 AM
Saturday	4:37 PM	3:49 AM
Sunday	5:28 PM	4:50 AM
Monday	6:19 PM	5:52 AM
Tuesday	7:10 PM	6:54 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 2, 2015

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4	UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6	7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5	OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5067/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6	OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN	UA180/5039	9:55pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM				
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM				
UA5039/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM				
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						
	</							

MARIANAS

From Page 11

On Sept. 2, 2015, while most of us were busy trying to get water and file FEMA claims, the Navy signed the Record of Decision for another proposal, the Guam and CNMI Military Relocation proposal, approving a new Marine Base in Guam, a new Live-Fire Training Range Complex, or LFTRC, and a separate hand-grenade range.

Next in the Navy's step-wise move on the Marianas is the CNMI Joint Military Training proposal, or CJMT. The CJMT would allow them to use two-thirds of Tinian for their second highest level of live-fire training range and to take the entire island of Pagan and use it for their highest level of live-fire training.

Unlike the LFTRC, the MIRC and the MITT that seemed far away, the CJMT proposed activities are entirely in the CNMI. It completes the Navy's live-fire training plans, surrounding us with live-fire ranges; in Guam to the south; Tinian in the west, FDM and Pagan to the north, and all around us on and in the ocean.

The CJMT will have widespread negative consequences on virtually every aspect of life in the CNMI: health, environment, natural resources, economics, culture, historic preservation, social justice, infrastructure, public safety and freedom of movement. The military will have over 24 percent of our total land mass and will dominate and control our airspace and maritime waters, restricting our movement and activities from Guam to Maug. With the CJMT, our local representative government becomes subjugated and subordinate to the Navy.

The Oct. 1 (CNMI date) deadline for public comments on the CJMT Draft Environmental Impact Statement is nearly upon us. It is our last chance to voice our concerns before the Navy publishes its Final EIS and makes its Record of Decision.

Public EIS comments are extremely important because the Navy only has to respond to the concerns about impacts to our lands, our waters and our people that are raised in the comments. They don't have to try to avoid, minimize, mitigate or even consider any adverse impacts that didn't make the deadline. Also, subsequent legal action cannot be taken on impact issues that don't make the deadline. Not getting an issue into the EIS amounts to a free pass for the Navy on that issue.

Through your EIS comments, you can demand that the Navy thoroughly investigate and disclose all the adverse impacts of their planned activities on our environment and our historic resources—not just those they choose to consider but the ones you bring up. For example, you can demand a thorough scientific study of the potential impact of years of explosive ordnance contamination of the soil to Tinian's underground fresh water supply. You can also call out their failure to consider reason-

able alternatives. For example, you can demand that they thoroughly investigate and consider alternatives to training that do not involve our islands and our waters.

It is not likely that you'll have read all of the Navy's 1,500-page Draft EIS and the many hundreds of pages of highly technical appendices. But that should not stop you from asking about any issue that is important to you. If the Navy addressed the issue, they can say so. But

if they did not, your asking can force them to address it.

It is easy to submit comments. Just visit <http://www.cnmieis.org/submit-comments.html>. The website makes it fast and easy. It also provides excellent and easy to understand information on the Navy's proposals

and the shortcomings and omissions of the Navy's Draft EIS.

Time is of the essence; act now and submit your comments before Oct. 1.

Peter J. Perez is a co-founder of PaganWatch and a member of Alternative Zero Coalition.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tinian, Pagan EIS comments needed by Sept. 30

The military's post-typhoon efforts that helped both the CNMI and Department of Defense training are the kind of mutual assistance that's appreciated,

welcomed, and supported. The destructive practices planned on Tinian and Pagan are not. Overwhelming opposition to the DOD ESI was voiced on petitions and public hearings. However, the CNMI's inability to unite and specifically address gaps and ne-

gotiate agreeable terms is giving DOD what they want without having to precisely define it. For that reason, additional written comments on what the EIS does not address need to be submitted within the next week.

Because the significance, magnitude, and numerous long-term consequences of DOD's plans, specific comments are needed by as many as possible. Explanations of what to write and how to submit them are in Friday's *Saipan Tribune* and added here:

1. Dentons & Environmental

Science Associates at: <http://www.cnmieis.org/submit-comments.html>;

2. Pacific Command/Joint Region Marianas at:

<http://www.cnmijointmilitarytrainingeis.com/get-involved>;

3. By mail to: Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific, Attn: 09PA, Public Affairs Office, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, JBPHH, HI 96860-3134

Joe Delp
Dandan, Saipan

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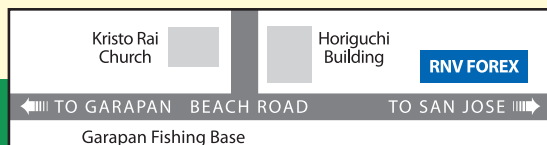
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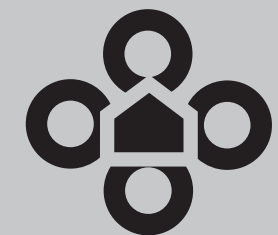
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September is Infant Awareness Month

The death of a baby before his or her first birthday is called Infant Mortality.

Unfortunately, 8 infants died during 2014 in the CNMI.

The loss of a baby remains a sad reality for many parents and takes a serious toll on the health and well-being of families.

Most of these babies die as a result of:

- ♥ Birth defects
- ♥ Maternal complications of pregnancy
- ♥ Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)
- ♥ Injuries (e.g., suffocation)

Fortunately, there are steps many of us can do that may help reduce Infant Mortality. Steps include:

- ♥ Taking folic acid
- ♥ Getting regular physical activity
- ♥ Getting early and ongoing prenatal care starting in the first trimester
- ♥ Adopting safe sleeping practices for your baby such as putting him or her to sleep on his or her back and alone in a CRIB or PACK-N-PLAY.

For more information on Infant Mortality Rates for the CNMI or steps you can take to help prevent Infant Mortality, please call the Maternal & Child Health Bureau at 236-8715.



This has been brought to you by the Maternal and Child Bureau, through funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Notice and opportunity for public hearing/oversight

Dear Senate President Victor Hocog and Senate EAGI chairman Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz:

Be noticed¹ that I am duly reappointed member of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents effective June 24, 2013 (and expiring on June 26, 2017), following a published and open public hearing performed by the Senate EAGI committee, which filed on July 25 2013, the committee report to the full Senate and was duly re-confirmed by the Senate effective July 26, 2013. After which, I performed the oath of office on July 31, 2013, at the NMC Board of Regents conference room, and was witnessed by the college, members of the college regents, including Gov. Inos who performed the oath, when I publicly declared on record to “solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Covenant to establish a Commonwealth, the applicable provisions of the U.S. Constitution, and treaties of the U.S. and that I will faithfully discharge my duties as a member of the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents, to the best of my ability...”

In mid-July, 2015, I requested a meeting with EAGI chairman Cruz for an opportunity to brief the committee on the actual tracing performed on the term of office of all seven current regents

(five from Saipan, one from Rota, and one from Tinian), including the term of the office I occupy, which I openly disputed (since April 24, 2015).

Last week, I again made efforts in setting an appointment with the EAGI committee chairman in the instant case, a subject that was amply brought to the attention of the Senate and the EAGI committee since July 2015, on the regents office I currently occupy that has neither expired nor vacant; the office I currently occupy officially expires on June 26, 2017 per the official communication by Gov. Inos.

The NMC Board of Regents, the body that is constitutionally vested with autonomy and independence over the administration of the affairs of the board, has neither issued notice nor officially acted in disputing my current standing as an official member of the college regents.

Presumably, the EAGI committee may rely on some reference, if not by request, which neither originated from, nor was officially acted upon by the members of the present Board of Regents.

Unclear as to whether or not the committee placed reliance on an unsolicited letter of April 15, 2015, penned by the attorney general, I do know that the Board of Regents in a special April 2015 board meeting, openly disputed the impetus and substance of that letter, a subject decided in ample case precedents and in one local case decided last week.

Referenced in a decided controversy that involves the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission and in a similar case in Hawaii, the court made the point above exceedingly clear: “First of all, an attorney general’s opinion cannot by itself establish ‘clearly established law.’ See *Cedar Shake and Shingle Bureau v. City of Los An-*

geles, 997 F.2d 620, 625 (9th Cir. 1993) (the courts are not bound by an attorney general’s opinions, although they are generally regarded as highly persuasive); *Price II*, 921 F.2d at 957 (the attorney general’s opinion regarding the use of § 5(f) funds in the hands of OHA had no effect on the court’s analysis); *Guardian Plans, Inc. v. Teague*, 870 F.2d 123, 129 (4th Cir.) (attorney general’s opinion “does not have the force of law”), *cert. denied*, 493 U.S. 882, 110 S.Ct. 218, 107 L.Ed.2d 172 (1989); *Nicholson v. Gant*, 816 F.2d 591, 595 (11th Cir. 1987) The attorney general’s opinion “is not law and not binding”).”

As of Sept. 21, 2015, NMC Board of Regents legal counsel, a former Supreme Court justice and former lieutenant governor, Mr. Jesse Borja, informed me that he is actively engaged in a factual discovery with the Legislature on the subject at hand based on an action by the Board of Regents, with instructions by the board to the counsel to present an objective findings of facts and conclusion of law for the Board of Regents’ consideration, review, and action in an official board meeting to be called soon.

Technically, the board’s action makes a declaratory or injunctive judicial review premature at this time, pending the board counsel’s factual discovery and application of the staggered term of office law affecting the standing of the current term of office of *all* members of the current regents board.

William S. Torres

Member, NMC Board of Regents

¹ Source documents evidencing all claims above may be made available to the committee and Senate upon request.

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Aviation Refueller Supervisor

Job Description:

Responsible for assisting the Aviation Depot Superintendent in a safe and proper handling, storage and movement of aviation products at the airport as well as dispensing aviation fuel into aircraft. Assists in keeping the facility and personnel in compliance with ExxonMobil Aviation’s systems controls and guidelines and optimizing the efficiency of all assets at the facility.

Location:

- Saipan Aviation Depot, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Job Duties:

- Executes and complies with ExxonMobil’s systems controls, policies and guidelines by using aviation manuals and procedures and adhering to government and industry standards.
- Ensures that only clean, dry and on-specification fuel is delivered to aircraft safely and efficiently.
- Supervises and requests authorization to perform facility or equipment maintenance and repair to improve operations’ safety and efficiency in the most economical manner.
- Oversees all aspects of aviation products, assets and materials used in a safe and efficient manner.
- Supervises the facility’s employees performance of assigned duties during the shift. Recommends actions on equipment’s maintenance and repairs to the Aviation Depot Superintendent.
- Stewards contractor performance with respect to contract deliverables.
- Provides his superior with the recommended materials listing of spare parts requirements and assists in repairs of specialty items as required.
- Reports to his superior the current developments at the facility during the shift.

Qualifications / Skills required:

- Supervisory experience in safe petroleum handling, storage and movement or related field
- Understanding of aviation and federal regulations as applicable to petroleum handling, storage and distribution
- Must be able to work shifts based on a 24-hour work day, work extended hours, weekends and holidays
- Good interpersonal skills, ability to communicate orally and in writing in English

Preference will be given to candidates with the following skills:

- Experience in aviation operations
- Previous experience in petroleum handling and storage
- Previous experience in petroleum industry

If you are interested in and/or meet the qualifications for this position, please submit your resume on or before October 9, 2015 to the following:

Attention to:
Maria P. Kemp, Field Operations Manager-CNMI
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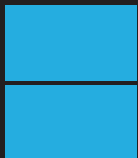
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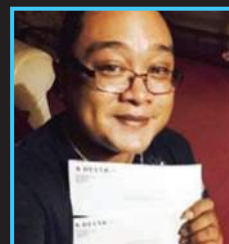


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Mount Carmel School holds student leadership retreat

Mount Carmel School's student leaders got up bright and early on Saturday, Sept. 19, to participate in the school's Student Leadership Retreat. Held every year, the retreat helps students grow as leaders and gives them the opportunity to work together to plan all school activities for the school year.

The retreat was facilitated by the school's Student Council, led by its president, Thomas Lee A. Manglona II. After starting with a prayer and a group-building energizer, Manglona inspired student leaders with observations about what young leaders can accomplish. He did so by sharing a video about Malala Yousafzai, the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize who turned her tragedy of being shot by the Taliban into a crusade for female education across the

world. Pointing to Malala's example, Manglona urged his fellow student leaders to stand up and make a difference.

After Manglona's remarks, school president Galvin Deleon Guerrero shared some tips on how to effectuate change in school and beyond. Drawing from the work of Chip and Dan Heath in their book *Switch*, Deleon Guerrero used the latest discoveries in brain and behavioral research to suggest effective ways that students could motivate and change the behavior of their peers.

After Deleon Guerrero's presentation and a short break, student leaders and their teacher advisers got down to work, planning out the entire school year. Going through week by week, Student Council officers worked with clubs, classes, and organizations to schedule activi-



ties for the year. Whenever conflicts emerged, students were ushered aside to work out alternatives and solutions. By the end of the retreat, student leaders had successfully planned out the entire year.

Student Council vice president Markel Toves was pleased with the results of the retreat. "[It] was amazing and a complete success in terms of planning out the school year," he said.

In particular, he appreciated Deleon Guerrero's discussion on how student leaders can switch behavior. "Being a teenager, I tend to slack off and feel lazy, but learning more about how to motivate myself and others was very helpful." (MCS)

Student Council officers work with class and club officers to plan out events for the entire school year. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Aviation Refueller

Job Description:

Responsible for assisting the Aviation Depot Supervisor in a safe and proper handling, storage and movement of aviation products at the airport as well as dispensing aviation fuel into aircraft. Ensures that into-plane refueling is carried out in accordance with the ExxonMobil Aviation's operating procedures.

Location:

- Saipan Aviation Depot, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Job Duties:

- Executes and complies with ExxonMobil's systems controls, policies and guidelines by using aviation manuals and procedures and adheres to government and industry standards.
- Ensures that only clean, dry and on-specification fuel is delivered to aircraft safely and efficiently.
- Stewards facility contractor's performance and execution of required deliverables.
- Performs repairs on facility and equipment as directed by the Aviation Depot Supervisor.
- Advises the supervisor on stock levels of required aviation materials in a timely manner.
- Performs tests and checks on fuels and equipment and ensures a current and accurate record is kept reflecting all results.

Qualifications / Skills required:

- Experience in safe petroleum handling, storage and movement or related field
- Understanding of aviation and federal regulations as applicable to petroleum handling, storage and distribution
- Must be able to work shifts based on a 24-hour work day, work extended hours, weekends and holidays
- Good interpersonal skills, ability to communicate orally and in writing in English

Preference will be given to candidates with the following skills:

- Experience in aviation operations
- Experience in general repair and maintenance activities
- Previous experience in petroleum handling and storage
- Previous experience in petroleum industry

If you are interested in and/or meet the qualifications for this position, please submit your resume on or before October 9, 2015 to the following:

Attention to:
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Field Engineering Technician

Job Description:

Monitors engineering, maintenance, construction and repair activities at the aviation depot and bulk terminal upgrade projects. Duties include managing and controlling capital expenditures and operating expenses for projects at three facilities to ensure established standards of efficiency, safety, costs and timeliness are met. The engineering technician has the responsibility to ensure that SSH&E (Safety, Security, Health and Environment) requirements and the company's operations integrity management system and processes are incorporated in the execution of the projects.

Location:

- Saipan Aviation Depot, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Job Duties:

- Responsible for site supervision which includes and requires overseeing project's execution, coordination, preparation and implementation of the various operations integrity management requirements with the aviation operations group, terminal operations group, suppliers, design engineers and affiliate advisors.
- Provides technical support for facility design, maintenance and repair activities of the facility upgrade projects.
- Develops and ensures adherence to SSH&E programs to safeguard the safety and health of the community, the public and employees.
- Ensures adherence to company processes in procurement, work controls and environmental protection to help improve efficiencies in project management.
- Interfaces with Engineering Manager, Safety, Engineering and Technical Advisor, Aviation Operations Manager, Safety Advisors, Contractors, Depot personnel, Environmental and Government representatives.
- Maintains updated engineering projects on Global Engineering Database and Aviation Equipment and Design Specification Manual.

Background / Qualifications / Skills required:

- A degree in civil, mechanical, electrical or petroleum engineering
- A minimum of 5 years' experience in engineering design, engineering project management and construction management in civil or mechanical works
- Proficiency with computer applications in spreadsheet, word processing, project scheduling and planning materials specifications and construction drawings
- Understanding of US federal and local regulations in the areas of engineering and construction
- Good oral and written communications skills
- Good interpersonal skills
- Experience with computer-aided design preferred
- Experience in petroleum industry preferred

If you are interested in and/or meet the qualifications for this position, please submit your resume on or before October 9, 2015 to the following:

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Chuseok: Celebrate Korean harvest festival at Hyatt

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In South Korea, September is a month of celebration as this is when they hold a festival in honor of their harvest season.

Families get together for days to celebrate the Korean traditional occasion of Chuseok, originally known as "hangawi," meaning "the great middle of autumn" in archaic Korean. It is one of the three major holidays of their country and a time for giving thanks to their ancestors for the year's harvest.

In observance of this, Hyatt's Kili Café & Terrace is featuring a Korean station at their Tour of Asia Sunday dinner buffet this month.

Korean favorites such as beef bulgogi and kalbi are among the highlights of the menu. However, unlike the common beef bulgogi, Kili Café will be serving it in the traditional Korean way.

Hyatt's Korean sales manager Helen Shin said it is better to eat bulgogi by hand. This is done by wrapping the beef in lettuce and adding kimchi to spice up the flavor. Eating a bulgogi this way makes the flavors and texture enhance each other with every bite. Follow it up with a chunk of rice and you'll soon be asking for more!

Korean kalbi or barbecued short ribs is another grilled favorite. According to Kili's chef de cuisine Inas Hocog, it is almost similar to bulgogi in

terms of marinating but bulgogi is sweeter.

Kili Café will also serve a variety of kimchis made from turnip, cucumber, and bean sprouts.

Other much-loved Korean festive staples such as marinated pork belly, spicy squid, and dumplings are available. Dinner will be followed by customary desserts and includes free flowing beer, wine, and iced tea. Korean soju will be available for purchase at a special price.

Dinner starts at 6pm at \$42 per person. Club at the Hyatt members are welcome. For reservations, call 234-1234.



Aside from Korean favorites such as beef bulgogi and kalbi, spicy squid is also among the dishes featured in Kili Café's Tour of Asia Sunday dinner buffet Korean station.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Safe Sleep for Your Baby

About **3,400 infants** die suddenly and unexpectedly each year in the United States. Most of these deaths result from **Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)** and other sleep-related causes of infant death, such as suffocation.

Safe to Sleep campaign
launched in 1994
formerly the Back to Sleep campaign

Safe to Sleep mission:

to educate parents, caregivers, and health care providers about ways to reduce the risk of SIDS and other sleep-related causes of infant death

1993 The proportion of **infants placed on their back** to sleep increased from **17%** to **73%**

17%

2010

73%

Number of **SIDS deaths**

4,669

1,910

SIDS
50%

The U.S. **SIDS rate** dropped by more than **50%** since 1993

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Safe Sleep environment

To **reduce the risk** of SIDS and other sleep-related causes of infant death:



► Always place baby on his or her back to sleep for all sleep times, including naps.

► Room share — keep baby's sleep area separate, but in the same room where you sleep.



► Use a firm sleep surface, free from soft objects, toys, blankets, and crib bumpers.

Learn more about ways to reduce the risk of SIDS and other sleep-related causes of infant death at



<http://safetosleep.nichd.nih.gov>



Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

For more information,
please call: Tel: (670) 236-8711
Email: hvpcnmi@gmail.com



H.O.M.E. Visiting Program

This has been brought to you by the H.O.M.E. Visiting Program, Maternal and Child Bureau, through funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Sold-out crowd for BSI's live band, \$1 draft beer, weekly cash winners

The latest venue for live nightly entertainment, Best Sunshine Casino Live Bar, is a resounding success with the bar filled to seating capacity and standing room only, with its crowd-drawing promotion of \$1 Stella Artois draft beer, free chasers, and live music from the turntables of DJ Fade and the rest of the 9PM DJ crew and the musical trio Baraha Band.

Best Sunshine Live amplified all the elements of a successful crowd turnout with a fabulous \$6,000 cash weekly giveaway at the Slots Lucky Draw, a raffle event that gives Best Sunshine players a chance to win \$100 up to \$1,000 cash three times per week. Players will be given lucky draw tickets every hour. Drawings are held every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday nights, starting from 8pm to 10:30pm. This exciting chance to win cash prizes runs from Sept. 22 throughout the entire month of October. **(BSI)**



Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. (ExxonMobil) is a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil Corporation – the world's largest publicly traded international oil and gas company, which holds an industry-leading inventory of resources and is one of the world's largest integrated refiners, marketers of petroleum products and chemical manufacturers. This is your opportunity to join this dynamic company and become part of the team that thrives in a fast-paced, controls-oriented environment as:

Terminal Operator - Saipan

Job Description:

Performs day to day activities to safely operate a petroleum distribution facility. Maintains SSH&E (Safety, Security, Health and Environment) standards pursuant to local and federal regulations and ExxonMobil's policies, procedures and guidelines. Performs operations of marine tanker receiving, bunkering, tank truck loading, pipeline transfer, product quality testing, handling and storage of bulk and packaged petroleum products while delivering premier product quality and customer service.

Location:

- Saipan Terminal, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Job Duties:

- Executes and complies with ExxonMobil's operational procedures and systems, policies and guidelines by using terminal manuals and procedures, loss prevention tools, and corporate & industry standards.
- Conducts routine facility inspections. Maintains housekeeping and conducts maintenance and repairs to ensure safe operating conditions.
- Performs safe marine terminal operations, shore to ship and ship to shore transfers of bulk petroleum products, tank truck loading, pipeline transfers and product quality testing.
- Adheres to safety and environmental programs. Takes a dynamic and proactive approach to protect the environment and the safety, health and security of employees, customers and public.
- Administratively prepares and submits regulatory and internal reports associated with the handling, storage and product movement of the petroleum distribution terminal. Performs oil loss monitoring duties.
- Interfaces with third party contractors, local and federal government agencies, internal and external customers and ExxonMobil's global network system.
- Conducts simple math calculations and conversions of temperature, weights and measures.

Qualifications / Skills required:

- Experience in safe petroleum handling, distribution and storage or related field
- Must be familiar with computer applications in spreadsheet, word processing (MS Word and Excel)
- Understanding of US federal and local regulations as applicable to petroleum handling, storage and distribution
- Must be able to work shifts based on a 24-hour work day, work extended hours, weekends and holidays
- Good interpersonal skills, ability to communicate orally and in writing in English

Preference will be given to candidates with the following skills:

- Experience in marine terminal operations
- Previous experience in petroleum handling and storage
- Previous experience in petroleum industry

If you are interested in and/or meet the qualifications for this position, please submit your resume on or before October 9, 2015 to the following:

Attention to:
Maria P. Kemp, Field Operations Manager-CNMI
P.O. Box 500367 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Fax: (670) 236-8190
Email: maria.kemp@exxonmobil.com

ExxonMobil is an Equal Opportunity Employer

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran or disability status.

Federal law requires that we verify the identity and work eligibility of all new hires. We comply with this law in a nondiscriminatory manner.



Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. (ExxonMobil) is a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil Corporation – the world's largest publicly traded international oil and gas company, which holds an industry-leading inventory of resources and is one of the world's largest integrated refiners, marketers of petroleum products and chemical manufacturers. This is your opportunity to join this dynamic company and become part of the team that thrives in a fast-paced, controls-oriented environment as:

Terminal Operator - Tinian

Job Description:

Performs day to day activities to safely operate a petroleum distribution facility. Maintains SSH&E (Safety, Security, Health and Environment) standards pursuant to local and federal regulations and ExxonMobil's policies, procedures and guidelines. Performs operations of marine tanker receiving, bunkering, tank truck loading, pipeline transfer, product quality testing, handling and storage of bulk and packaged petroleum products while delivering premier product quality and customer service.

Location:

- Tinian Bulk Plant, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Job Duties:

- Executes and complies with ExxonMobil's operational procedures and systems, policies and guidelines by using terminal manuals and procedures, loss prevention tools, and corporate & industry standards.
- Conducts routine facility inspections. Maintains housekeeping and conducts maintenance and repairs to ensure safe operating conditions.
- Performs safe marine terminal operations, shore to ship and ship to shore transfers of bulk petroleum products, tank truck loading, pipeline transfers and product quality testing.
- Adheres to safety and environmental programs. Takes a dynamic and proactive approach to protect the environment and the safety, health and security of employees, customers and public.
- Administratively prepares and submits regulatory and internal reports associated with the handling, storage and product movement of the petroleum distribution terminal. Performs oil loss monitoring duties.
- Interfaces with third party contractors, local and federal government agencies, internal and external customers and ExxonMobil's global network system.
- Conducts simple math calculations and conversions of temperature, weights and measures.

Qualifications / Skills required:

- Experience in safe petroleum handling, distribution and storage or related field
- Must be familiar with computer applications in spreadsheet, word processing (MS Word and Excel)
- Understanding of US federal and local regulations as applicable to petroleum handling, storage and distribution
- Must be able to work shifts based on a 24-hour work day, work extended hours, weekends and holidays
- Good interpersonal skills, ability to communicate orally and in writing in English

Preference will be given to candidates with the following skills:

- Experience in marine terminal operations
- Previous experience in petroleum handling and storage
- Previous experience in petroleum industry

If you are interested in and/or meet the qualifications for this position, please submit your resume on or before October 9, 2015 to the following:

Attention to:
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ExxonMobil is an Equal Opportunity Employer

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, protected veteran or disability status.

Federal law requires that we verify the identity and work eligibility of all new hires. We comply with this law in a nondiscriminatory manner.



Be one of 12 Miss Teen Marianas contestants

It's more than just a beauty tilt; it is an opportunity for young women to help support charitable causes of their choice.

This year's edition of Miss Teen Marianas will feature 12 candidates whose purpose-driven lives will be thrust into the limelight. Joining the Miss Teen Marianas competition will allow them to generate more support for the charities they hold dear.

Winning Miss Teen Marianas is truly a life-changing event. Reigning Miss Teen Marianas Gianna Camacho attests to that, blossoming into a more mature, confident young Chamorro woman.

"Overall, I have loved being Miss Teen Marianas. I never regretted joining the pageant

even once. I originally joined just to have fun and improve my public speaking skills but I got so much more out of it. By joining the pageant I was able to meet so many other girls from Saipan and all over America (during my time in Jacksonville) who share my interest in improving today's youth and being a positive role model for future teens to follow. I really feel like the people I met in Jacksonville will hold a special place in my heart and memory," said Camacho.

"Being Miss Teen has changed my life in so many ways. During my time as Miss Teen, I did a lot of community events. I visited schools and the hospital to donate books

and it was really a rewarding experience knowing that I could bring happiness to kids, even if it was just for the day," said Camacho, who bested 15 other equally deserving candidates for the crown in 2014.

Camacho represented the Northern Marianas in the 2015 Miss Teen International held in Jacksonville, Florida last July.

For Camacho, the work doesn't stop when her reign ends.

"To further give back and continue improving the lives of children, I applied, and was accepted into an international volunteer association



Camacho

in Argentina where I will be working with children aged 1-6 this January. I believe that if I wasn't for Miss Teen I wouldn't have been able to find my passion and love for different cultures, languages, and children and my volunteering experience in Argentina would not be possible," she said.

Her advice to her successor and candidates of Miss Teen Marianas? "Always have an open mind, be dedicated to your running time, and most importantly have fun! Don't get blindsided by the crown; the journey to the crown is half of the fun!"

Stellar Marianas president

Laila Boyer said, "We are so proud of Gianna and extend our deepest appreciation to her and her family for representing as our islands so well as teen ambassador to the world."

"We are inviting our young women to participate in this exciting opportunity and help our community shine in a positive way. It is a fun, valuable experience and we encourage our young women to take this chance and discover where this opportunity could take them," she said.

Those who would like to follow Camacho's footsteps have until Oct. 9 to file their applications. This year's pageant is tentatively scheduled for Dec. 12 and proceeds will go to continuing disaster relief efforts for families in need.

To register and for more information, visit Pena House Boutique or email stellarqueens@gmail.com.

Only 12 candidates will vie for the prestigious crown. Hurry and register! (*Stellar Marianas*)

Saipan Tribune Make it your *DAILY* habit.

WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Program

If any of these categories apply to you, please contact WIA.

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIOA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIOA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

Category D: is a displaced homemaker;

DISPLACED HOMEMAKER—The term "displaced homemaker" means an individual who has been providing unpaid services to family members in the home and who—

- (A) (i) has been dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income; or (ii) is the dependent spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code) and whose family income is significantly reduced because of a deployment (as defined in section 991(b) of title 10, United States Code, or pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section), a call or order to active duty pursuant to a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, a permanent change of station, or the service-connected (as defined in section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) death or disability of the member; and
- (B) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

Category E:

1. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code), and who has experienced a loss of employment as a direct result of relocation to accommodate a permanent change in duty station of such member; or
2. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and who meets the criteria described in Displaced Homemaker Definition (B).

You may be able to qualify for services under WIOA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • **Fax:** (670) 664-1710

Email: gov.wia@pticom.com



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER (ATCT) PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-002-16

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Janitorial Services of the Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) at the Saipan International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Scope of Work entails providing janitorial services for a period of two (2) years for the Tower, the Base Building and its surroundings. The proposal package will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning September 04, 2015. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for this project. Proposers shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Janitorial Services of the Air Traffic Control Tower at the Saipan International Airport". One original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, September 25, 2015, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

Questions regarding this RFP must be in writing and faxed to the Executive Director at (670) 234-5962 or via email at cpa.admin@pticom.com no later than September 21, 2015.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offer or due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit CPA to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for service.

Offerors will be required to comply with all NMCI and applicable Federal Laws. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned submission date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRS OF GENERATORS AT THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND PORT OF SAIPAN CPA-RFP-003-16

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (The "CPA") is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (the "RFP"), and other contract provisions, for proposals from qualified individuals, firms, companies and/or corporations to provide Generator Preventive Maintenance Service and Repairs at the Saipan International Airport and Port of Saipan.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50, Procurement Rules and Regulations of Title 40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (the "NMIC"). Title 40, including chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The successful proposer will be awarded 2 years to perform the services with option to renew for an additional 2 years at the sole discretion of the CPA.

The proposal package will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning September 18, 2015.

The proposal package includes the Scope of Work and other considerations upon payment of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) to be paid at the CPA Accounting Office. Payment shall be in cashiers' check or cash only. All responses to this RFP shall take into account any costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Proposers shall take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project. Proposals must be submitted no later than 4:00 P.M., October 9, 2015 to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would not be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of proposer's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit the CPA to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure a contract for services.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
Executive Director

SINCE TYPHOON SOUDELOR STRUCK

DPS received 1,850 complaints for various crimes

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Since Typhoon Soudebor hit Saipan last Aug. 2, there have been a total of 1,850 complaints for various crimes received by the Department of Public Safety, according to DPS Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero yesterday.

Deleon Guerrero said the lack of electric power contributed to a lot of homes becoming potential victims to burglary and vandalism.

DPS investigations after Soudebor resulted in 109 criminal arrests, including five persons charged for siphoning gas and stealing generators.

According to DPS statistics, of the 1,850 complaints, Gara-

pan tops the list with 435, followed by Chalan Kanoa with 179, and Susupe with 172. Most complaints were for disturbing the peace, followed by burglary and theft.

Deleon Guerrero said they have police officers who have been “stretched to the limit” since the typhoon and that DPS is still in recovery mode in terms of operations.

He said the Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation is currently operating in the briefing room at the main DPS building, where there is electric power. This poses a challenge

because it limits their capacity to interview victims or interrogate suspects.

“I appeal for patience from the community in terms of us being able to respond to the types of complaints or cases that are filed with the department,” he said.

Because much of the island still has not received island power, DPS is putting a lot of manpower resources out on the streets.

“The reason being is, because if you don’t have power, you don’t have lighting. If you don’t have lighting, there is a high potential for crimes

to occur,” he said.

Deleon Guerrero noted that after the disaster struck, many residents moved out of their homes and relocated to hotels, apartments, or homes of family members who have power. That left a lot of these homes easy prey for burglars.

DPS spokesman Jason Tarkong agreed with the commissioner about the spike in burglary and theft cases happening after the typhoon, saying it has made it easier for burglars to get inside homes where there are no occupants or the doors are damaged and open.

Tarkong said that, according to Criminal Bureau of Investigation commander Jeffrey F. Olopai’s report, since Soudebor battered Saipan, 17 persons were

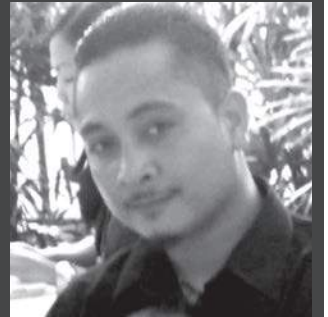
officially charged in court for crimes against persons such as domestic violence, and 12 cases were forwarded to the Office of the Attorney General for prosecution.

Tarkong said 66 cases of crimes against persons are being actively investigated. Fourteen burglary cases have been closed or in which suspects were identified and the stolen items were recovered.

He said eight prior burglary and theft cases have been closed as a result of the investigation and over \$10,000 worth of stolen items were recovered.

Tarkong added that detectives arrested a person for illegal possession of 6 grams of methamphetamine, but the suspect has not been formally charged.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy birthday to the most loving partner/father, Eric Borja Ilo! May God bless you on your special day, with many more blessings to come. We love you! Cheers and enjoy. Much love from Babe and your one and only sonshine, Izaiah Blaze.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
RE-ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITB15-DCCA/NAP-117**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2015 **TIME: 1:00 P.M.**

“CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS, NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ LAURA T. OGUMORO
SECRETARY OF DC&CA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
RE-ANNOUNCEMENT OF ITB15-DCCA/NAP-118**

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2015 **TIME: 1:30 P.M.**

“PRINTING AGENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS, NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE.

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/S/ LAURA T. OGUMORO
SECRETARY OF DC&CA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY • CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

RFP NO.: RFP15-DPL-130

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 30, 2015 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT
SERVICES FOR TRACT 41-3 (PINA RIDGE) IN PINA, TINIAN, CNMI
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS”**

THE COMPLETE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS, 2ND FLOOR JOETEN DANDAN COMMERCIAL BUILDING DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A **PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING** IS SCHEDULED ON **OCTOBER 13, 2015 AT 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME** AT THE DPL 2ND FLOOR JOETEN DANDAN COMMERCIAL BUILDING, SAIPAN. ALL **QUESTIONS** REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO **PEDRO A. TENORIO, SECRETARY OF PUBLIC LANDS** OR **FAXED TO (670) 234-3755** NO LATER THAN **4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, OCTOBER 20, 2015**.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ **PEDRO A. TENORIO**
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC LANDS

/S/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works**

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

**INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-15-IFB-011**

Renovation of Attorney General’s Office Phase I-Building No. 2

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the **Renovation of Attorney General’s Office Phase I Building No. 2**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **September 18, 2015** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on second floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (IOC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2011.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **September 28, 2015, 9:00 a.m. local time** at the **Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan**. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:30 p.m. local time on October 2, 2015** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan** or **fax to (670) 234-3547**. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at **4:30pm** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan** or **fax to (670) 234-3547**.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer’s Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or of issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder’s responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **“DPW-15-IFB-011”**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time of October 9, 2015**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time of October 9, 2015** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticm.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 9, 2015** and must be received no later than **October 13, 2015**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time of October 13, 2015**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m. local time on October 9, 2015**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers’ check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: “Credit Account No. 44660”. If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds. Each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Gov’t
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Ninety (120) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority

Did you know that Western Pacific green turtles are considered a genetically distinct population from ten other region’s around the world?

An upgrade in status from “threatened” to “endangered” under the Endangered Species Act for our region’s green turtles is currently being considered by USFWS and NMFS.

To report sick, injured, dead or disoriented turtles please call our stranding hotline at **287-8537 (CTR-TLES)**.

**Division of Fish & Wildlife
CNMI**

CNMI turtles are a shared community resource connecting our people’s past with our people’s future. Help us to con-serve sea turtles so future generations may be able to enjoy them also.

THE MICRONESIA CHALLENGE

New method measures coral-reef ecosystem condition

While island societies can do little to control carbon emissions from developed nations, they can manage their local resources to enhance the ecosystem services that coastal habitats, including reefs, provide for people. In this spirit, the political leaders of five nations in Micronesia initiated the Micronesia Challenge in 2006 as a commitment to “effectively conserve” at least 30 percent of their marine resources and 20 percent of their terrestrial resources by 2020. With regards to coral reefs, the Challenge was established due to growing concerns of stressors such as climate change, unsustainable harvest of fisheries, and land-based pollution.

The tough thing about studying fishes, coral reefs and other marine ecosystems is that they are constantly moving and changing in response to natural variation, episodic disturbances, and human stressors. So how can scientists help managers measure the effectiveness of marine conservation efforts? This is the question new research in Micronesia is helping to answer led by the University of Guam Marine Laboratory.

The new paper published in the academic journal *PLOS ONE* describes a way to mea-



Striking a balance between harvesting large herbivores and predators and allowing for their functional roles in the ecosystem is a major challenge facing reefs in Micronesia. Photo shows a school of frigatefish on Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

sure coral-reef ecosystem condition, and predict the relative influence of key threats to coral reefs. “Perhaps the greatest challenge for the team of scientists from Yap to the Marshall Islands was establishing a ‘scorecard’ indicative of the fish, corals, and benthic substrates that all depend upon each other,” described Dr. Peter Houk, the lead author of the study. “This was accomplished by using individual condition metrics, similar to our blood pressure and cholesterol, which combine to determine our health.” Armed with this approach, the researchers

evaluated the current health of 78 reefs across eight islands in Micronesia.

The results were a bit daunting, revealing that only 42 percent of the major reef habitats across Micronesia exceeded the thresholds established for the Micronesia Challenge. “Understanding current health was a key component of this research, but we also needed to evaluate why reefs in some localities were not as healthy as others. More specifically, we needed to understand if coral-reef status was due to natural environments or human stressors because we

can only manage human stressors,” said Trina Leberer from The Nature Conservancy and co-author of the study.

For several islands with low human populations, such as Rota in the Mariana Islands and Namdrik Atoll in the Marshall Islands, wave energy alone was the best predictor of coral-reef condition, and so reefs were considered to be more-or-less in a natural state, and healthy. However, for the majority of islands with larger human populations, fishing pressure acting alone on the outer reefs, or in combination with pollution in some lagoons, was the best predictor of more than 50 percent of the reefs examined. “These results highlighted the ecological roles that healthy fisheries contribute to overall ecosystem function. When examined deeper, we found that the absence of predators and large herbivores on reefs was the strongest factor leading to the dominance of algae cover. Both have key functional roles that are threatened,” said Houk.

Also interesting was the finding that the majority of marine protected areas across Micronesia are not currently living up to their full potential. This could be due to poor placement and natural factors, but was more likely a consequence of insufficient enforcement given that the fewer successful MPA’s were associated with dedicated community-based enforcement.

“We have to start thinking outside the box and managing fisheries from many approaches, not just no-take marine protected areas,” said Eugene Joseph, executive director of the Conservation Society of Pohnpei and co-author. “Networks of scientists, community members, and the fishing community have begun coming together in Pohnpei and have together decided on new legislation that limits the harvesting and sizes of key predators and large herbivores. This legislation recently passed and is now a law. Enforcement and compliance is now the remaining issue we’re dealing with, and outreach to communities is a big part of that. Such practices of limiting our catches of certain species and size classes were common practices of traditional cultures.”

The results of the current study have pinpointed reefs that are not doing well, evaluated which stressors are most likely responsible, and finished by determining what aspects of the fish communities are most threatened. This represents a key step toward promoting healthy reefs and ecosystem services such as fisheries that they provide. Next steps include completing the assessment in Palau in coordination with the Palau International Coral Reef Research Center, and exploring

interest in the possibility of conducting this type of assessment for Guam.

“Fishing is and will always be a cornerstone for societies and livelihoods in Micronesia. This requires that we have dedicated science-to-management frameworks in place to efficiently evaluate management, and help adapt policies when necessary,” said Houk. Specific details about progress in

each jurisdiction can be found in the freely-available online report (<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0130823>).

The authors thank the Micronesia Conservation Trust, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Coral Reef Conservation Program, and the David and Lucille Packard Foundation for supporting the collective efforts. (PR)

Two heads are no better than one at grocery store checkout

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: There are no words to express how disappointed I am at the education kids receive now and still graduate with “honors.” I was at the grocery store a short time ago. Two young ladies working there just completed their freshman year at the local college. One of them had been on the honor roll all through high school.

I bought four packages of gravy mix that were on sale—four packages for \$1. As the cashier rang it up, I noticed that she had entered them at 44 cents apiece. When I brought it to her attention, she asked the other cashier if that was right. She asked, “Forty-four cents, wouldn’t that be four for \$1?” The other one picked up a calculator to find the answer.

Can you tell me, what did this honor student learn in school? Both girls are in college. My heart is broken for our kids. Maybe we need to go back to teaching like when I was a kid. Just call me ...

GRANDPARENT IN TEXAS

DEAR GRANDPARENT: Frankly, your letter leaves me at a loss for words. I can only say that the problems with our educational system will not be resolved in an advice column. Readers?

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I was sober for a year when I met my husband. Neither my alcoholism nor my 24 years of perfect sobriety have ever caused any upset for anyone in his family.

His niece will be married later this year in a winery in another state. The thought of it makes me anxious, and I am opting to not attend with my husband.

Abby, I am not a “special” aunt, and I have no place in the wedding, which will be large. Some family members think I’m being selfish, but I believe I am my first responsibility. They are not the sort you can talk to, so please advise. Am I being selfish?

VERY SAD IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR VERY SAD: Not in my opinion. Your reason for not attending makes sense to me, and it’s not “selfish” to skip an event at which you would not be comfortable. If you send your husband—and a nice wedding gift—I’m sure the bride will forgive your absence. And for those who would hold it against you, “remind” them that although you have maintained your sobriety for many years, it can’t be taken for granted because sobriety is a day-to-day challenge for people with alcoholism.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My friend and I have a disagreement. We do crossword puzzles together at the dog park. She says using a thesaurus/dictionary is cheating. I say that if I look something up and then write it down, I’m learning. What say you, Abby?

WILLIAM IN OCEANSIDE, CALIF.

DEAR WILLIAM: I agree with you. For this friend to shame you because you need a little help with the answers isn’t very nice. The next time she says it, smile and ask her what a five-letter word with a “t” in the middle is.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Vanessa Jean Woodruff

April 27, 1990 – September 20, 2015

In Her New Life She Joins:

Paternal Grandparents: H. Raymond and Monica Woodruff
Maternal Grandfather: Mechaet Mengloi
Brother: Mark Mechaet
Cousin: Colter Dallman

She Is Survived By:

Father: Stephen C. Woodruff
Mother: Bedebii M. Woodruff
Maternal Grandmother: Menrang Beouch Mengloi
Aunts & Uncles: Justino Mengloi
Bristina Shanon
Rolmii Ngiratred
Christina Young
Carolyn R. Woodruff (Morgan Dallman)
Cynthia M. Woodruff (Tim Schied)

Siblings: Nestralda Mechaet Mathew Kioshi
Mason Mechaet Dexter Alan Woodruff
Heather Olebangel Woodruff (Patrick Ito) Andrei S. Avendaño-Woodruff
Katherine S. Avendaño-Woodruff Uriel S. Avendaño-Woodruff
Cousins: Jared Schied
Tyler Schied
Jessica Dallman

Vanessa will also be missed and remembered by numerous other aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and caregivers.

Funeral Services will be held at Palau Evangelical Church, Navy Hill, at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, September 26, 2015, followed by burial at Tanapag Cemetery at 11:00 a.m.

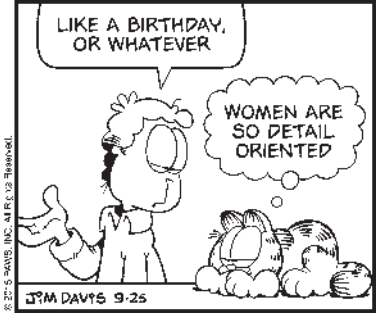
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

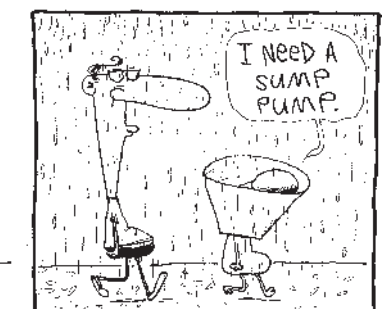
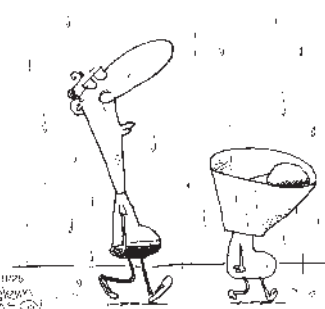
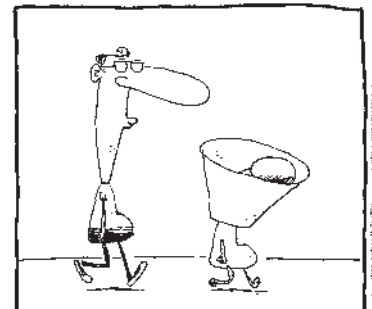
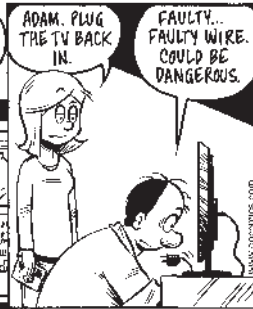
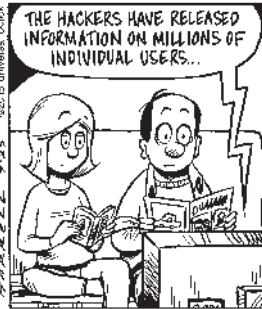


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Lanka lead-in
4 Hot tub
7 Kin of "Presto!"
12 Basinger or Catrall
13 Slithery swimmer
14 Frequently
15 "Born in the —"
16 Fertilizer
18 Yule fuel
19 Field goal score
20 Recognize
22 Parisian pal
23 Sported
27 Resistance measure
29 South American plains
31 Arcade game name
34 Put into office
35 Sociable
37 Snitch
38 Lids
39 Ostrich's kin
41 Go really fast

DOWN

45 Playground fixture
47 Weep
48 Embarrassing landing, maybe
52 Chapeau
53 Palatal dangler
54 Chaps
55 Biblical verb suffix
56 Indigent
57 Savings plan acronym
58 In medias —

3 Former larva
4 Calendar abbr.
5 "The Taking of — 1 2 3"
6 Klaxon
7 November
8 Nonfunctioning
9 Judge Lance
10 Writer Buscaglia
11 Moreover
17 Simon or Diamond
21 Everything, at a hot dog stand with "the"
23 Welk specialty
24 Inseparable
25 Sinbad's flier
26 "Guinness Book" suffix
28 Part of H.M.S.
30 Meadow
31 Sternward
32 Excessively
33 Jungfrau, for one
36 Scream
37 Comedian Rita
40 Florida city
42 Yellowish-brown shade
43 Deliver a speech
44 Legends
45 Fix, in a sense
46 Sicilian spouter
48 Enjoyment
49 St. crosser
50 Pool-room prop
51 Bygone times, once

Solution time: 25 mins.

P	A	C	P	I	T	H		O	A	M
I	L	L	A	L	O	E		I	D	L
C	L	U	B	S	O	D	A	P	E	E
	R	A	S		D	R	F	S	S	E
D	O	C	I	O	H		I	N		
O	V	A		N	A		A	N	G	E
N	E	R	D		T	A	J		C	O
A	R	S	O	N		W	A	D	L	I
			O	A	P		R	E	E	F
S	C	O	R	P	I	O		F	T	C
H	A	R	M		G	L	E	E	C	L
M	O	O	N		E	L	A	N		U
					L	A	R	D		B

Yesterday's answer 9-25

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Catherine Zeta-Jones, 46; Will Smith, 47; Heather Locklear, 54; Michael Douglas, 71.

Happy Birthday: You'll be able to make things happen this year if you are sincere, innovative and willing to present and promote what you have to offer. Get rid of any doubts that might push you to procrastinate, and you will stand out and receive recognition for your talent and skills as well as your impeccable timing. Your numbers are 2, 14, 22, 24, 31, 33, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A money-making opportunity is heading your way. Don't shy away from a deal because you don't feel you have enough qualifications. Do a quick study regarding what's expected of you and prepare to negotiate about what you have to offer. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take a day trip if it will help you broaden your outlook or offer a chance to make a personal change or move. Your responsible attitude and ability to get things done will put you in a good position. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Listen closely to what's being said. Twisting words around or making things out to be something other than what they are will cause a loss of trust. Do your best to avoid overreacting or overspending. Self-discipline is key. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take part in what's going on around you in your community or in a place you've always wanted to visit. Expanding your

knowledge will lead to new interests. Spend time with new friends as well as your trusted family members. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your generosity will buy you time and favors from people intrigued by your spontaneity and smart wit. Your ability to size up any situation you face and take immediate action will keep you motivated and in a winning position. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't let your chores or responsibilities stop you from taking part in events where you will make new acquaintances. The information you discover by being a participant will help you make decisions that can change your life. Explore your options. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Initiate change before it is forced upon you. Be the first to make a move or to try something new or different. You have more going for you than you realize, so don't sit back when you should be leading the way. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Work from home or find ways to make what you produce more interesting and unique. Don't let personal matters cause you to fall short of your expectations or goals. Finding a balance between work and home will be necessary. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your vision regarding a situation involving a friend, relative or peer will not be clear. Listen and watch for any signal that might raise a red flag regarding a deal being made that could put you in a vulnerable position. **

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If you let someone get away with pushing you around, you will lose the respect of others. It's important to speak up and make the changes that will help you bypass those trying to hold you back. Do what's best for you. ***



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make financial changes that will benefit you in the long run. Put a budget in place to make sure you stay on the right track. Romance will improve your personal life and affirm that you are on the right path. ***



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your sensitivity will be difficult to hide. Don't take unkind comments to heart. Consider whatever is said as being constructive and use it to make the improvements that will help you advance. Remember, the sweetest revenge is success. ***

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative and intellectually intriguing. You are quick, versatile and popular.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

4			7		5	1		2
	7			4			8	
9								
6								1
	2			3			5	
8								3
								8
	5			8			2	
1		4	6		7			9

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	1	7	8	5	3	9	6	2
5	8	9	7	6	2	4	3	1
6	3	2	9	1	4	7	5	8
9	6	8	3	2	1	5	7	4
7	2	3	4	8	5	1	9	6
1	5	4	6	7	9	8	2	3
8	4	6	2	9	7	3	1	5
2	7	1	5	3	8	6	4	9
3	9	5	1	4	6	2	8	7

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/25

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD**.

STARGAZING

Solution: 5 letters

C L A U N H E M I S P H E R E
O O A L N I S T E N A L P Z C
O B N N M I S U I R I S O O L
R L S S O A V (K) (S) (U) (D) M O I
D C A E T S N E G T I P G Y P
I O E T R E A A R A A L A M S
N S M L I V L E C S A R L O E
A M I D E T E L S H E A A N P
T I T N I S U R A P T E X O O
E C U B T S T D S T I L Y R C
S S R E T A C I E D I C I T S
P O M E U H S R A M A O A S E
A O R R A A R Y L L N W N A L
C S U R E V O L U T I O N S E
E S T W I L I G H T I N E Z T

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9/25

Algoi, Almanac, Astronomy, Celestial, Chart, Clear, Clusters, Comets, Compass, Constellations, Coordinates, Cosmic, Dawn, Disc, Dusk, Eclipse, Galaxy, Hemisphere, Latitude, Lyra, Mars, Observers, Orbit, Orion, Planets, Revolution, Saturn, Seasonal, Sirius, Space, Spica, Taurus, Telescope, Time, Twilight, Universe, Venus, Zenith, Zodiac

Yesterday's Answer: Olympics

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution: Cut out the middle man

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

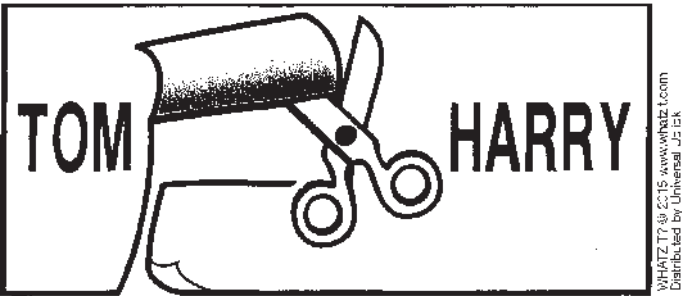
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section

Ace Hardware CNMI Inc. is currently seeking
(1) ACCOUNTANT
Interested applicants must e-mail a resume to hrd3@joeten.com or may pick up an application at the second floor of the Ace Hardware CNMI Inc.

THREE B/R THREE BATH (GATED) HOUSE FOR RENT
SEMI-FURNISHED \$650.00.
SAN VICENTE NEAR TO SCHOOL.
PLEASE CALL 288-4916

Warehouse for RENT
REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #3 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
\$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 235-6527/28 or 285-1317

ARMATECH
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) Accountant
\$6.55/hour
Must have at least five years work related experience
Qualified applicants may submit their resume to Armatech Corporation Office located at Chalan Pale Arnold, Puerto Rico, Saipan.

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Video Operator - \$6.05/hr
Film and edit video footage using professional video and editing equipment. At least 5 years experience. Able to work flexible hours in Tinian and Saipan.
Interested applicants may send resume by mail or email to: KP Enterprises, Inc., PO Box 520353, Tinian, MP 96952
E-mail: kpent@pticom.com, no phone calls please.

PACIFIC ISLAND CLEANING AGENCY
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(2) General Maintenance
(2) Commercial Cleaners
-must have 5 years experience.
Please send resume to PO Box 502670
Koblerville, Saipan MP, 96950
E-mail: hectorsablan@yahoo.com

Century Travel Agency, Inc. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

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JVA#15-005: Pay Level / Step: Annual Salary: Location:	Trades Helper 11/05 - 11/09 \$11,681.76 - \$14,193.06** Marianas Visitors Authority, Tinian
JVA#15-006: Pay Level / Step: Annual Salary: Location:	Marketing Assistant 18/01 - 18/02 \$13,052.98 - \$13,703.64** Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

*If not filled, the vacancy announcement will be continued and applications will be reviewed every two weeks thereafter until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day.

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Saipan Tribune **235-6397**

Pirates clinch playoff spot with 13-7 win over Rockies



DENVER (AP)— Neil Walker had a career-high six RBIs, including a three-run homer, and the Pittsburgh Pirates clinched their third straight playoff berth by beating the Colorado Rockies 13-7 on Wednesday night.

The Pirates secured at least an NL wild card as they chase first-place St. Louis in the NL Central. They trail by four games with a home series coming up against the Cardinals.

Walker provided the bulk of the offense with a bloop, two-run single in the first and a towering three-run homer in the third off fill-in starter Christian Bergman (3-1). Walker ended his night with a run-scoring single as part of a six-run ninth to break open a tight game.

Blue Jays 4, Yankees 0

In Toronto, Russell Martin hit a three-run home run, Marcus Stroman pitched seven strong innings to win his third straight start and the Blue Jays beat the Yankees, extending their AL East lead to 3 1/2 games.

Martin, who used to play for the Yankees, connected off Andrew Bailey in the seventh. Martin matched his career high for homers with 21 as Toronto took two of three from New York in a showdown between the division's top teams.

Stroman (3-0) allowed five hits, walked one and struck out five in his third start since returning from a torn knee ligament suffered in spring training. The outing lowered his ERA to 1.89.

Brett Cecil worked the eighth and Roberto Osuna finished.

Starting in place of Masahiro Tanaka (right hamstring), New York right-hander Ivan Nova (6-9) took the mound for the first time since allowing six runs in 1 2-3 innings of a Sept. 12 loss to Toronto.

Braves 6, Mets 3

In New York, Freddie Freeman broke a ninth-inning tie with a three-run homer after driving in two as a pinch hitter in the seventh, and the Braves stunned the Mets in the finale of New York's rough homestand.

David Wright had a tying, two-out single off Brandon Cunniff in the seventh after the Braves scored three times in the top half to take a 3-2 lead. But closer Jeurys Familia failed in the ninth as the NL East leaders finished 3-6 on their penultimate set at Citi Field.

New York stayed 6 1/2 games in front of second-place Washington, whose 4-3 loss to Baltimore trimmed the Mets' magic number to five for clinching the division title.

Twins 4, Indians 2

In Minneapolis, Phil Hughes pitched five scoreless innings in his return to the rotation, and the Twins had rare success against Corey Kluber in a victory over the Indians to move within a game of the second AL wild-card spot.

Minnesota trails Houston by a game after the Astros lost to the Angels earlier Wednesday.

Hughes (11-9) allowed four hits and struck out four. Brian Dozier homered and Trevor Plouffe had two doubles, a single and an RBI for the Twins (78-73).

Kluber (8-15) gave up four runs on



Pittsburgh Pirates' Josh Harrison, right, and Elias Diaz celebrate after the Pirates' 13-7 win over the Colorado Rockies in a base-ball game clinched a playoff berth, Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2015, in Denver.

five hits and struck out six in 3 2-3 innings for the Indians. Cleveland played without star outfielder Michael Brantley, who injured his shoulder while diving for a ball on Tuesday night.

Carlos Santana hit a two-run homer in the ninth for the Indians (74-76), who now trail the Astros by 5 1/2 games with 12 left to play.

Angels 6, Astros 5

In Houston, David Freese hit a go-ahead two-run double in a three-run eighth inning to help the Angels rally for a win over the Astros to close in on the second AL wild-card spot.

In the eighth, Mike Trout hit a leadoff double off Will Harris (5-5) before David Murphy drew a walk with one out and Harris was replaced by Pat Neshek.

Freese's double sailed just beyond left fielder Colby Rasmus on the warning track and made it 5-4. Carlos Perez's RBI single made it 6-4 and chased Neshek.

Trevor Gott (3-2) induced the last two outs of the seventh for the win and Huston Street allowed one run in the ninth before retiring Jed Lowrie for his 40th save.

Royals 4, Mariners 3, 10 innings

In Kansas City, Mo., Lorenzo Cain singled home pinch-runner Paulo Orlando in the 10th inning, and the Royals rallied past the Mariners to close in on their first division title in 30 years.

The victory reduced the Royals' magic number to two for clinching the AL Central crown. They can lock it up Thursday night with another victory over Seattle and a Minnesota loss to Cleveland.

The defending AL champions have not won a division since taking the AL West in 1985 and going on to win the World Series.

Wade Davis (8-1) worked a spotless 10th to pick up the victory. Rollins (0-2) absorbed the loss.

Tigers 7, White Sox 4

In Detroit, Justin Verlander hit 99 mph in evading a bases-loaded jam during his final inning, and Victor Martinez hit

his 200th career home run as the Tigers beat the White Sox.

Verlander (4-8) threw five straight fastballs 98-99 mph in striking out Geovany Soto to end the seventh inning and exited with a four-run lead. He allowed three runs on five hits with eight strikeouts.

Melky Cabrera's 100th career home run, a two-run shot in the fourth, accounted for the first two White Sox runs off Verlander.

The Tigers scored six runs off Frankie Montas (0-1) in his first career start. They scored twice in the first on Martinez's 11th home run, then added four more runs in the third — two of them scoring on J.D. Martinez's bases-loaded ground-rule double that gave him 98 RBIs for the season.

Orioles 4, Nationals 3

In Washington, Manny Machado hit a two-run homer off Max Scherzer with two outs in the seventh inning and the Orioles rallied past the Nationals.

Steve Pearce had a two-run homer and a double for the Orioles, who moved within four games of the final AL wild card spot.

Washington remains 6 1-2 games behind NL-East leading New York, which lost to Atlanta.

J.J. Hardy led off the seventh with a double against Scherzer (12-12), but after Clint Robinson robbed Gerardo Parra with a diving stop at first, the Washington starter had a chance to get out of it.

Machado worked the count to 2-2 before lining Scherzer's season-high 122nd and final pitch into the seats in left center for his 30th homer.

Baltimore starter Chris Tillman (10-11) allowed three runs over six innings for his first win since Aug. 17.

Darren O'Day pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

Marlins 4, Phillies 3, 11 innings

In Miami, Dee Gordon's RBI double with two outs in the bottom of the 11th inning lifted the Miami Marlins to a victory over the Phillies.

Justin Bour hit his 19th home run for the Marlins, who snapped a four-

game losing streak.

Miguel Rojas singled and Ichiro Suzuki walked with two outs in the 11th before Gordon doubled to deep right-center field off Jerome Williams (4-12).

Brian Ellington (2-1) earned the win by pitching a scoreless inning.

Both teams scored a run in the 10th as Freddy Galvis hit an RBI single for the Phillies and Suzuki scored for the Marlins on a throwing error by catcher Carlos Ruiz.

The Marlins had a runner in scoring position after Ruiz's error with no outs, but were unable to drive in the winning run in three straight at-bats.

Rays 6, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Drew Smyly pitched shut-out ball into the seventh inning, and John Jaso's two-run double keyed a three-run eighth to carry the Rays to a win over the Red Sox, keeping Tampa Bay out of last place.

Steven Souza Jr. had four hits, Asdrubal Cabrera had three hits and both hit solo homers. The Rays won for the fourth time in 11 games. Tampa Bay lost the opener of the four-game series Monday, falling into the AL East's basement this late in the season for the first time since 2007.

Smyly (4-2) gave up five hits, struck out seven and walked three in 6 1-3 innings.

Mookie Betts had two singles for Boston, which had won 11 of 17. The Red Sox scored both runs with two outs in the ninth.

Rick Porcello (8-14) allowed three runs—two earned—on 11 hits, striking out eight and walking one in seven-plus innings.

Brewers 4, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Zach Davies allowed two hits over six innings and Martin Maldonado drove in two runs to lead Milwaukee to a victory over Chicago, snapping the Brewers' nine-game losing streak to the Cubs.

Jorge Soler homered for the Cubs, who lost for the second time in nine games and finished with three hits total.

Davies (2-2) allowed two singles in the second inning, walked one and struck out four.

Francisco Rodriguez pitched the ninth and picked up his 35th save in 37 opportunities.

Luis Sardinas gave the Brewers a 1-0 lead with an RBI single just out of the reach of a diving Kris Bryant at third base.

Cardinals 10, Reds 2

In St. Louis, Matt Carpenter hit a pair of two-run homers, Lance Lynn pitched six scoreless innings and the Cardinals routed the Reds.

The win was the fourth straight for the NL Central leaders and it improved their major league-best record to 96-56. Randal Grichuk and Peter Bourjos also homered as the Cardinals hit four for the first time this season.

Matt Holliday returned to the St. Louis lineup for the first time since July 29 and contributed an RBI double.

Both of Carpenter's homers came off Brandon Finnegan (4-1), who allowed six runs in five innings.

Padres 5, Giants 4

In San Diego, Jedd Gyorko hit an RBI single to right-center with two outs in the ninth inning to give the Padres a wild win over the Giants, who dropped seven games behind first-place Los Angeles in the NL West with 11 to go.

The Dodgers beat Arizona 4-1. The Giants remained 9 1/2 games behind the Chicago Cubs for the second wild card.

The Padres won for just the fourth time in 12 games.

San Diego started the winning rally against George Kontos (4-3) with a one-out double by Matt Kemp and an intentional walk to Justin Upton. Brett Wallace popped up before Gyorko singled off Santiago Casilla.

Rangers 10, Athletics 3

In Oakland, Calif., Elvis Andrus and Adrian Beltre each hit three-run homers in support of Colby Lewis' six strong and the Rangers beat the Athletics to take a three-game lead in the AL West Division.

Rougned Odor also homered, Mitch Moreland, Shin-Soo Choo, Will Venable drove in runs and Prince Fielder ended an 0-for-20 streak as the Rangers magic number fell to eight.

Lewis (17-8) became the Rangers' first 17-game winner since Scott Feldman won 17 in 2009. He's already set a career high for wins.

Felix Doubront (3-3) gave up seven runs in 4 2-3 innings.

Dodgers 4, Diamondbacks 1

In Los Angeles, Chase Utley hit a leadoff homer and added a tiebreaking RBI double in the eighth inning, and the Dodgers snapped their four-game losing streak beating the Diamondbacks.

Utley's double to the wall in right field drove in Jimmy Rollins, whose bunt single leading off the eighth was Los Angeles' first hit since Utley's homer on Chase Anderson's first pitch.

Corey Seager then added a two-run homer for the Dodgers (86-65), who lowered their magic number for clinching a playoff berth and their third straight NL West title to five.

Paul Goldschmidt homered in his fourth straight game at Dodger Stadium for the Diamondbacks, who easily won the first two games of this series against the inconsistent Dodgers.

Davis hopes NMI can medal in Pacific Games

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Bodybuilding Federation president John Davis remains optimistic that someday the CNMI would win a medal in the bodybuilding event of the quadrennial Pacific Games.

Davis said that 30 medals, 10 of which were gold, were offered in the XV Pacific Games in Port Moresby, Papua New

Guinea last July.

The hosts went home with a 5-3-2 gold-silver-bronze haul to rule the bodybuilding event winning the lower (-65 kilograms and -70kg) and middle (-75kg, -80kg, and -85kg) weight categories.

A total of eight weight classes were contested in the men's division, while the women's side offered only two. Five to six bodybuilders competed from

each country.

Davis said part of Papua New Guinea's success is investing on its athletes. "They invested 500,000 Kina (\$175,000) for their bodybuilding team in the Pacific Games."

"I know we couldn't match spending that kind of money but I think we could figure something out," said Davis.

He added that bodybuilding is a sport that needs a lot of discipline



JON PEREZ
Donivan Mendiola gained some experience in international competition after competing in this year's XV Pacific Games in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

Virginie Foucault gave New Caledonia its lone gold in the -55kg weight class with Fiji's Maryann Moss claiming silver. Pau Moses of Papua New Guinea bagged the bronze.

"Aaron (Tomokane) and Donovan (Mendiola) worked hard and I saw them train. They gave it their all but in all competition, there is always someone who is the best," said Davis.

"Most of those who competed were huge. There's this one guy that is I think is almost in his 50s and that guy is ripped," he added.

And with Saipan's power still not at 100 percent, Davis said all CBBF events and other programs are on hold for now. "All are suspended for now because of the power situation."

Even the Dee Clayton Classic, which is a separate event and solely organized by CBBF vice president Dee Clayton, got cancelled early this month.

"We're encouraging everybody to join every competition. As of now, we're getting ready for the CNMI Championships in March," Davis said.

He added that he also hopes to form a team that would train whole year round in time for the 2016 Pacific championships set in Tahiti.

No Sunday events in '19 Pacific Games

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

There will be no Sunday events in the 2019 Pacific Games in Tonga as organizers chose to return to the old ways of not holding matches on the seventh day of the week.

According to a *Fiji Times* report, organizers of the XVI Pacific Games, which will be held for the first time in Nuku'alofa, said they had already informed the Pacific Games Council of their plan.

The XV Pacific Games in Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea last July will be the last time that Sunday events will be held.

Former Tonga Prime Minister Lord Savale, who is the Tonga Pacific Games Organizing Committee chief executive officer, said that it was one of the issues discussed by the PGC during its last meeting.

"One of the issues asked of

us the other day was what our response would be about sports on Sunday. We've decided that we'd go back to the traditional way we've been running the Pacific Games," said Savale.

Savale added that all participating athletes and officials in the quadrennial Games should reserve Sundays for rest and relaxation.

"For Sunday we'll allow everybody to rest or go to the beach but there will be no sport played on Sundays when you're in Tonga," said Savale.

All activities in Tonga stop starting at 12 midnight of Sunday and to 12 midnight on Monday. Tonga is a predominantly Protestant island-nation and strictly observes the Sabbath, which is declared sacred in their constitution.

Savale said Tonga's government, under King Tupou VI, assured all member nations that they are committed to host and deliver a successful Pa-

cific Games in July 2019. "And we're looking forward to seeing all nations in Tonga."

Tonga has proposed holding athletics, baseball, bodybuilding, cricket, volleyball (beach and indoor) field hockey, football, golf, judo, lawn bowls, lawn tennis, netball, powerlifting, rugby league nines, softball, surfing, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, triathlon, and va'a.

Organizers are also thinking of including boxing, rugby 7s, and weightlifting that were not part of the sports when they bid to host the Games.

Most of the venues for the 2019 Pacific Games are within walking distance that's why organizers coined the term the "walking games" for the 16th edition of the sporting event.

Upgrades are also expected at the Teufaiva Stadium, Lototonga Football Complex, and 'Atele Indoor Stadium. An aquatic center is also planned to be built at Lototonga.

and nutrition and has no requirement in height, speed, or agility.

Tonga came in second with three gold and two bronze, while New Caledonia, the 2011 Pacific Games bodybuilding champions, collected 1-2-1.

Davis added that American Samoa, which has almost the same population size as the

CNMI, managed to win a medal from its four athletes.

Ursula Teo Martin clinched the gold for American Samoa after ruling the women's +55kg division and also clinched the overall women's crown.

Papua New Guinea's Misa Avefa and Haifa June Work of Fiji settled for the silver and bronze.

IOC: 5 cities in running to host 2024 Olympic Games

LONDON (AP)—The race is on for the 2024 Olympics, a five-city contest pitting four European bids against a two-time host from the United States.

The IOC announced the official field of candidates Wednesday, and there were no surprises as the previously declared bidders were all on the list—Budapest, Hungary; Hamburg, Germany; Los Angeles; Paris; and Rome.

"We are welcoming five outstanding and highly qualified candidate cities," International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach said.

The deadline for submission of entries expired at midnight on Tuesday in Switzerland. Two other potential candidates—Toronto and Baku, Azerbaijan—decided not to bid.

The IOC also released the host city contract and other documents setting out the two-year bid process, which has been changed to eliminate the cut-down phase and ensure that all candidates go to the final vote in Lima, Peru, in September 2017.

The IOC has been determined to present a healthy number of bids and a strong field for 2024 following the troubled race for the 2022 Winter Games, which was left with only two candidates after four pulled out for financial or political reasons. Beijing defeated Al-

maty, Kazakhstan, in the IOC vote in July.

"We can really look at a very diverse and creative field," Bach said in a conference call with reporters Wednesday.

SEKIGUCHI
From Page 28

Belcher at midfield, and Fruit stayed at his spot. Won Young Kim and Reniel Relucio were the new defenders, teaming up with Masga and Butcher, while Joshua Galario relieved Aninzo at the goalie position. Mareko Tekopua and Emmanuel Aniana missed the scrimmage due to groin injuries.

The CNMI players were pitted against the school's U16 team with the host squad winning, 6-0. Assumption players had four or five Thai national

players on its roster, according to Zapanta, and it is considered as one of the top school teams in the country. The host team led by five at halftime as they scored in the sixth, 10th, 15th, 27th, and 28th minute, while their last goal was recorded in the 49th.

"From what I observed from the bench, ACS had their strong team throughout the first half. As halftime approached, they had already substituted half of the starting 11. ACS also had given their squad a fair share of pitch time," Zapanta said.

Meanwhile, the CNMI U19

crew returned to practice yesterday morning and took the time off in the afternoon. Today, they will play their second and last scrimmage against Chonburi FC Academy players to complete the five-day training camp before leaving for Bangkok tomorrow in time for the opening of the qualifier this Monday.

In Bangkok, the Teen Ayuyus will debut against Chinese-Taipei on Sept. 28 and will have their last three matches in Group H versus Singapore (Sept. 30), Thailand (Oct. 2), and South Korea (Oct. 4).

RED RICE
From Page 28

Angelo Fernando chipped in 16, while Darwin Barbo contributed 11, and Danrey Chan, Armand Anasan, and Joel Saplan added 8 apiece. Jason Blasco completed Red Rice's box score as he registered 2 points.

While Red Rice had multiple options in scoring, Wag Kang Pabebe's offense was too predictable with only two players consistently hitting their shots for the erstwhile leader. Christian Devero had 20 for the losing squad, while Brendon Talania logged 19. The five other Wag Kang Pabebe players who hit the board posted no more than two

field goals.

With Talania and Devero on target, Wag Kang Pabebe took early control of the match, but failed to keep the momentum late in that first half, while Cabanas, Fernando, and Barbo started working together for Red Rice. The trio combined for Red Rice's last 15 points in the first 20 minutes of play to grab the upper hand from Wag Kang Pabebe, 34-26.

Red Rice complemented its balance scoring with a tough defense late in the first half when Wag Kang Pabebe did not have a quarterback and was forced to commit errors, which the former turned into baskets. Wag Kang Pabebe was without point guard Adonis Macoto, while

J.R. Mina and Talania sat on the bench in the closing minutes of the first half.

In the second half, Fernando got things going for Red Rice early on, while Cabanas and Barbo took over midway. The rest of the team added more baskets, which came easy with Red Rice enjoying a big lead and Wag Kang Pabebe making little effort to fight back.

Red Rice 80 – Cabanas 26, Fernando 16, Barbo 12, Anasan 8, Saplan 8, Chan 8, Blaso 2.

Wag Kang Pabebe 55 – C. Devero 20, Talania 19, Woodson 4, J. Devero 4, Mina 4, Abdilla 2, Orbeta 2.

Scoring by halves: 34-26, 80-55.

'THE CRANK'

From Page 28

Camacho said that although he failed to earn the chance of fighting in an Ultimate Fighting Championship event in Korea later this year, his goal of someday cracking MMA's biggest promotional company remains.

"I won't be fighting in UFC Korea. The goal is still to get a UFC contract but I have to continue to get more wins under my belt and to be worthy of fighting in the UFC."

UFC Korea is set on Nov. 28 in Seoul where world No. 13 Thiago "Pitbull" Alves of Brazil facing Benson "Smooth" Henson of the United States in a

five-round welterweight bout in the main event.

Camacho also continued to thank all the people, companies, and organizations that helped him with his relief drive for Saipan after it was hit by Typhoon Soudelor.

"It is our duty to help and assist in every way we can. I'm not a rich guy, but was raised to have a huge helping heart. After seeing the situation on Saipan, there is no way I couldn't not do anything," added Camacho.

"From the beginning it was not to impress anyone, but to press on everyone to do their part and help when people are in need. To all that did their share, a huge thank you."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	87	65	.572	—
New York	83	68	.550	3½
Baltimore	75	76	.497	11½
Tampa Bay	74	78	.487	13
Boston	72	79	.477	14½
Central Division				
Kansas City	88	63	.583	—
Minnesota	78	73	.517	10
Cleveland	74	76	.493	13½
Chicago	72	80	.474	16½
Detroit	71	81	.467	17½
West Division				
Texas	82	69	.543	—
Houston	80	73	.523	3
Los Angeles	78	74	.513	4½
Seattle	74	78	.487	8½
Oakland	64	88	.421	18½
NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	85	67	.559	—
Washington	78	73	.517	6½
Miami	65	87	.428	20
Atlanta	62	91	.405	23½
Philadelphia	57	95	.375	28
Central Division				
z-St. Louis	96	56	.632	—
z-Pittsburgh	92	60	.605	4
Chicago	89	63	.586	7
Milwaukee	64	88	.421	32
Cincinnati	63	88	.417	32½
West Division				
Los Angeles	86	65	.570	—
San Francisco	79	72	.523	7
Arizona	73	79	.480	13½
San Diego	71	81	.467	15½
Colorado	63	89	.414	23½
z-clinched playoff berth				
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				

Santos, Butac champs in darts, billiards tourney



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Darts champion Jun "Shocker" Santos, right, celebrates his win over Gilbert Gatmaitan in the weekly darts tournament held last Wednesday night at the Jonny's Bar & Grill in Garapan.

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Jun "Shocker" Santos and Mark Butac bested separate rivals to rule the weekly darts and billiards tournament organized by the Saipan Electronic Darts Association and the Saipan Billiards Association every Wednesday at 7pm at Jonny's Bar & Grill in Garapan.

Santos, a two-division most valuable player in the last SEDA season, scored an upset in beating Gilbert Gatmaitan in the finals of the one-day darts tournament.

Gatmaitan downed June "Awesome" Nunez, Jeff "Joker" Barit, Alfred Hocog, and Santos to breeze through in the finals. He, however, lost to Santos in the title game.

Santos, for his part, dropped to the loser's bracket after that loss to Gatmaitan where he needed to get past Jayson "The Fire" John in order to arrange another showdown with his elimination round tormentor.

He also scored wins over Erwin Claveillas, Joey Pangelinan, and John in the eliminations before losing to



Gatmaitan.

Santos went home with \$110, a trophy, and a SEDA shirt, while Gatmaitan settled for the \$70 runner-up purse and also a SEDA shirt.

Carter "Ace" Calma, Boom "Bang" Cruz, Paul "The Flash" Quizon, "Kevin KJ" Villagomez, Leo Santos, Leo Wania, James Benavente, Vince Repeki, Darol

Atalig, and Claro Bicol were also among the 18 players who joined the double-elimination round tournament, which collected a \$10 entry fee.

Butac went undefeated in claiming the billiards crown beating the likes of last week's winner Ray Matsunaga, Nolan Cultura, and Rico Montano in the double-eliminations before dispatching Boyet Sequico in the championship match.

Butac's efforts earned him \$50, a trophy, and a water park pass for two at Pacific Islands Club. Sequico went home with \$30 and an SBA shirt.

Erwin Gomez, Rey Hermogenes, and Robert Lieberwirth were the other players that paid the \$10 entrance fee to join the

tournament.

The island's power is not yet fully restored in some areas and that is why SEDA and



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Billiards tournament winner Mark Butac, right, and runner-up Boyet Sequico pose after their finals match.

SBA could not get their season going. Most of the bars participating in both leagues remain closed after Typhoon Soudelor

almost wiped out the island's power lines.

The one-day, double-elimination round weekly events

are both organized by Pacific Amusement Inc. in cooperation with MARPAC, Budweiser, and Bud Light.

No swimming tournament yet



CNMI swimmers may have to wait for about three more months before plunging into action at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

"The public swimming pool used for NMISF competitions will not be available until the end of this year," Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation's Carol Lynn Calobong-Pierce told *Saipan Tribune*.

The only 50-meter pool on island is still closed for public use due to the damage it sustained from Typhoon Soudelor that hit the island early last month. The water circulation system at the pool was broken.

"At this point in time, the individual clubs are using pools at hotels and the lagoon for venues to hold their practices," added Calobong-Pierce, who was talking of Saipan Swim Club and

Tsunami Saipan.

Both clubs had to start their 2015-2016 season late because of the destructive typhoon and the unavailability of the pool in Marpi, while NMISF has yet to create its calendar of events for the new season.

Had it not for the typhoon, NMISF season should have started this month. Last year, the group kicked off the season with a mini meet sponsored by SSC, while the first NMISF began its series of timed races in October. In November last year, NMISF had the SSC-led All School Championships, while the former held its mid-season meet in December. The remaining NMISF-sanctioned events last year, including the International Invitation Swim Meet that drew off-island swimmers, were spread from January to May. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Sekiguchi experiments in scrimmage

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI U19 National Team coach Kiyoshi Sekiguchi used their scrimmage against Assumption Christian School to test player combinations at the pitch.

"The match was a chance for the team to learn and gain valuable experience in preparation for next week's tournament in Bangkok. Coach experimented with players in different combinations, positions, and formations on the field," team manager Ruselle Zapanta said.

The Teen Ayuyus played ASC at the latter's campus field in Si Racha District in Thailand last Wednesday afternoon for the visiting team's first scrimmage in preparation for the AFC U19 Championship Bahrain 2016 Qualifiers that will start next week.

Sekiguchi used a 4-1-4-1



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI U19 National Team players and officials pose for a group photo at the Assumption Christian School in Thailand before having a scrimmage against the hosts last Wednesday.

formation with forward Sean Perez starting out for the CNMI and joined by midfielders Ryu Tanzawa, Evan Belcher, Chad Shankweiler, and Scott Kim, defenders John Diego Masga, James Ermitanio, Alan Hinson,

and Jordan Butcher, defensive midfielder Joel Fruit, and goalkeeper Chris Aninzo.

In the second half, the CNMI coach used substitutions and switched players.



Tanzawa moved to the forward position, Ryan Relucio, Greg Sablan, and Yoshi Mafnas joined

See **SEKIGUCHI** on
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'The Crank' to face Jones for vacant PXC crown

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Frank "The Crank" Camacho began his training camp last week to prepare for his title bout against Guam's Tyrone "Bones" Jones in a Pacific Xtreme Combat event set in Dec. 4 at the University of Guam Fieldhouse

in Mangilao.

Camacho (16-3 with 12 knockouts) said that it will be an 11-week training camp, which started last Sept. 18 at Synergy Studios in Hagatna, since he will be facing PXC veteran Jones (4-4 with 2 KOs).

"Usually my training camp is just six weeks, but this one is for

11 weeks since I'll be fighting a tough opponent," said Camacho.

Camacho and Jones will be fighting for the vacant PXC lightweight division title.

Jones, of Underworld Extreme/Guahan Top Team, has won his last fight against Zeng-zung Tinian's Peter Cepeda



(1-3) by way of knockout using elbows and punches in PXC 47 last March 13 at the

UOG Fieldhouse.

"This will be my first five-round fight, so I'm super excited. I have a huge task in front of me since Jones is known to be a tough opponent," Camacho told *Saipan Tribune*. "We are coming in strong with a lot of preparation time."

Cousins Roman "Boom" Alvarez and Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez and Vince "The Clinch" Masga are also fighting alongside Camacho as undercards in PXC's December event.

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JON PEREZ

Frank "The Crank" Camacho, right, is declared the winner by referee Alverick Alvarez, center, following his first-round stoppage of Yasuaki Miura of Zendokai Nagano in Rites of Passage 18: Warpath last July 3 at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.



Red Rice upsets Wag Kang Pabebe

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Red Rice recorded the most lopsided win so far in the 2015 Blue

Haus/IT&E Inter-Color Basketball League after demolishing Wag Kang Pabebe, 80-55, last Tuesday night at the Navy Hill court.

The victory in the rescheduled match that was originally set for Sunday was an upset

as Red Rice was at the bottom half of the team standings coming into the match, while Wag Kang Pabebe was the co-leader and on a three-game winning.

Red Rice spread the wealth in the match reset due to rain to cruise to the 25-point triumph and returned to the win column after dropping two of its last three games. Mike Cabanas led Red Rice's balance offense, as he fired 26 points.

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Red Rice's Angelo Fernando, right, drives against Wag Kang Pabebe's J.R. Mina during the first half of their game in the Blue Haus/IT&E caging last Tuesday at the Navy Hill Court.